

Habitat for Humanity: Rewarding experience, but who gets the houses?
Page 13

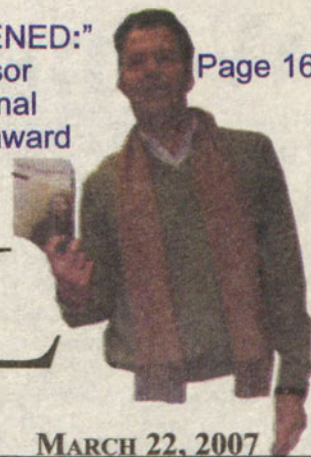
Elections Round-up
Who's running for the Student Congress executive board? For BMSA? For BOP? Turn to pages 4 and 5 to find out.

"WHAT HAPPENED:"
English professor publishes fictional account, gets award

Page 16



THE COWL



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MARCH 22, 2007



Left to right: Taj Chin '08, Tiffany Foynes '07, and Laurie Haverinen '07 attend a discussion on inter-racial dating, led by Patricia Wagner '07 and Frances Ford '07, as part of Target Diversity Week. Several events are being presented each day to help expose students to important diversity issues.

BY MALLARY JEAN TENORE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This is the first of a four-part series about diversity at Providence College. The series will address diversity in a variety of forms and will include accounts from students, as well as suggestions, proposals, and ideas for reform from other members of the College and the greater community.

Growing up in Queens, N.Y., Ray Cross '08 lived in a predominantly black neighborhood with little opportunity for education. Of his five closest friends, two dropped out during their junior year of high school, one was placed in special education classes from the fourth grade on, and two left college after freshmen year because they felt they had been inadequately prepared. Cross, 20, was the only one who has stayed in college and done well academically. But when asked to elaborate on his academic success, he cannot help but be reminded of derogatory comments he hears regularly from students at Providence College.

"No one really knows that I deserve to be here. People question why I am on this campus," said Cross, who is originally from Trinidad. "It puts me in a tough spot: It makes me feel like I should have to explain myself to everyone."

Some students, he noted, will ask him in conversation how he got into PC, believing he was only accepted because of affirmative action policies, which the College does not have. In actuality, Cross was valedictorian of his class, had a 3.9 GPA, and was involved in theatre and athletics.

While living in Queens, Cross attended a predominantly white, Jewish school where he said he never experienced racism. It wasn't until he and his family moved to Cumberland, R.I., and a classmate called him a derogatory name in the sixth grade that he learned just how hurtful words can be. While attending high school at St. Andrew's Academy in Barrington, R.I., Cross was surrounded by an ethnically diverse group of students, quite different from PC, where the student body is 83.6 percent white.

Cross, who was deciding between going to Tufts University and PC, said he

considered the College's homogeneous environment but ultimately came here because of the scholarship money he was awarded. Though he has enjoyed some aspects of his time at PC, Cross said the College's lack of diversity has made him feel compelled to defend his race and dispel the stereotypes that abound in society.

"People think that every black student on this campus is on the basketball team," said Cross. Though he was a member of the basketball team for two years before leaving to dedicate more time to schoolwork, Cross has many black friends at PC who are not on the team.

Other misconceptions, he noted, are that all black people are lazy, confrontational, and loud, don't like to do their work, take the easy way out, always listen to rap music, and only spend time with other blacks. "At the same time, no one questions why a group of Caucasians hang out together," said Cross, who loves writing poetry and listens to Maroon 5.

DIVERSITY/Page 6

Please turn to page 7 for a glimpse of Diversity Week in photos.

Dave Gavitt to speak at graduation

Four others to receive honorary degrees

BY MALLARY JEAN TENORE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Legendary basketball coach and athletic director Dave Gavitt has been selected as the guest speaker for the 89th Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 20, at the Dunkin' Donuts Center.

CAMPUS
NEWS

Gavitt was hospitalized last Thursday, March 15, however, and was unable to be reached by *The Cowl* for comment. The Associated Press reported that Gavitt was hospitalized at the University of Kentucky Medical Center after suffering from what was thought to be an upper respiratory ailment while commentating the NCAA South Region Tournament at Rupp Arena. He was set to be released after a few days but

GAVITT/Page 9



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PUBLICATIONS CENTER

Dave Gavitt, who has coached PC Men's Basketball Team and the U.S. Men's Olympic Basketball Team, will speak at Commencement this May.

Women Will, PC celebrate History Month

BY ALISON ESPACH '07
NEWS STAFF

Many students do not know that March is Women's History Month, but members of Women Will are trying to change that.

"Women Will has not done much in the past to celebrate Women's History Month and this has been a grave oversight," said Patricia Wagner '07, treasurer of the group. "We need to understand our past to understand our future as women."

Added Women Will President Frances Ford: "We always make sure to have events during the month of March to celebrate the month. Yet, it is clear more needs to be done to celebrate Women's History Month."

The group is taking action this year to do more by sponsoring several events. On March 26, Margaret Manchester, assistant professor of history, will be giving a lecture about Jane Verin at 5:00 p.m. in Moore Hall II. On April 2, Ellen Salvatore, associate professor of public and community service studies, will be

speaking about her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement.

Women Will and Target Diversity co-sponsored a lecture on Human Sex Trafficking and a round table discussion about Asian Women and Gender Roles on Wednesday, March 21.

Every year during the month of March, Women Will also sponsors an event about eating disorders in which women and men can talk about their experiences. This year, the event will be held on Wednesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. in Aquinas Lounge. In years past, Women Will has

shown movies, held self defense classes, and hosted lectures. Some students, however, argue that more must be done.

"I didn't even know it was Women's History Month," said Margaret Ethel Vernon '08. "But now that I do, I look forward to attending some of the events."

Members of Women Will said they enjoy not only being part of Women's History Month, but also the feeling of solidarity that comes with being a part of the club.

"When I sit in Women Will meetings, I

WOMEN/Page 2

INSIDE THE COWL:

Poll Question:
What do you think next year's leaders will bring to PC?

World:
Are "manly men" more healthy? Studies say so.

Commentary:
Mourning a PC alum: Roy Peter Clark '70 reflects on undergrad friendships

A&E:
Review of student production *Moon Over Buffalo*

Portfolio:
What kind of a Cheerio are you?

Roving:
If you could have any celebrity as a professor, who would it be?

Sports:
Life After PC: Catching up with NHL player Eric Lundberg '05

Women: New perspective on feminism

Famous R.I. Women

Anne Hutchinson (July, 159-July, 1643) was a Rhode Island native ahead of her time. She was an unauthorized Puritan preacher of an alternative church group and a pioneer settler in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and the New Netherlands.

She is the only woman to have co-founded an American colony (Rhode Island) alongside Roger Williams.

Additionally, she led Bible studies for women. Due to their popularity, however, men eventually joined.

Her scriptural study eventually turned into proclamations of her own religious philosophy, which was very controversial, which contributed to her banishment from her colony.

Historians speculate her downfall was in part due to her gender and being an outspoken woman in a male hierarchical Puritan society.

continued from front page

am surrounded by other women and men who believe in me, in themselves, and in the fight for gender equality," said Ford. "I often feel that I am surrounded by students at Providence College who believe being a feminist is crazy and a waste of time. Yet, I step into Women Will meetings and feel comforted and inspired by the entire group."

Ford also marveled at the growth of Women Will.

"I have been in the club for four years and, in that time, the club has grown tremendously," said Ford. "It has taken time for students on this campus to realize this club has nothing to do with hating men and, in fact, welcomes men. Each year more people decide to join and become active members."

Dr. Sally J. Thibodeau, associate professor of education and the first female dean of Providence College, said she has also witnessed the changing role of women on this campus in her 36 years of professional service.

"The one thing I can say is that women—undergraduates, faculty, administrators, and support

staff—are the backbone of PC," said Thibodeau. "We have gradually increased our presence on campus, as well as expanded our leadership role in the areas of academics, student life and overall governance of the College."

The role of women in clubs and organizations on campus has increased, as women lead organizations including Board of Programers (BOP), Student Congress, and Friars Club. Thibodeau, however, emphasized that women must continue constantly moving forward.

"If we do not want to be taken for granted we must remain vigilant and vigorous in our involvement with the institution so as to support the institution's growth and overall reputation," said Thibodeau. "As in all aspects of life, women's work is never done. We must continue to build on the strong foundation forged by the women 'pioneers' of the 1970s who set the standard for us."

Women Will said it does not see their mission as over, as the executive board has expressed desire for more funding and support from the administration.

"Right now Women Will is unfunded but hopefully we can

change that for next year," said executive board member Danielle Bax '08.

Bax noted that there are many events run by Women Will that require funding such as the thank a feminist dinner thrown for members of the faculty in November and love your body Day in October.

"I always wish we had more support from students and faculty," said Ford. "I wish more students would step out of their comfort zone and challenge themselves to learn about some hard topics. I always hope that more professors and departments will take notice of our hard work and support us. Although financial support is always helpful, I would truly like to see more faculty come to our events and participate in our hard work."

Women Will began about 10 years ago to create a safe place for women and men to come together to discuss issues such as domestic violence, sexual assault, women's health, and sexism in the work place. Meetings are held every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Women's Studies Office, located in Phillips Memorial Library 118B.

Famous R.I. Women

Born in 1926, Clara Walker was the first female graduate of Providence College and the first woman inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame as an Honors Master Swimmer after she competed in the 1948 Summer Olympics.

During a 33-year break from swimming, Walker worked for a telephone company, spent seven years in a cloistered religious order, and graduated from college. Having sworn never to swim competitively again after the 1948 Olympics, she began again at age 54 when her doctor recommended swimming to alleviate back pain. Joining her first swim meet for therapeutic reasons, she ended up setting a U.S. national record in the breaststroke in the 50-54 age group.

Ultimately, she set 103 national records after leaving the 55-59 age group. Currently, she holds every world and national record in the 65-69 age group, excluding the butterfly. Overall, she has held 184 world records and 468 national records, more than any other Masters swimmer—male or female.

CAMPUS

CALENDAR

March 23 to 29

23 Friday	24 Saturday	25 Sunday	26 Monday	27 Tuesday	28 Wednesday	29 Thursday
1:00 p.m. Experience a Disability, Slavin Ground Level 3:00 p.m. "What's So Bad About Evil" lecture, Moore III 3:30 p.m. PC Annual Debate Tournament, Moore II	3:30 p.m. PC Annual Debate Tournament, Moore II 7:00 p.m. Red Shell Road Rally: Mario Kart Tournament, Slavin Center '64 Hall	2:00 p.m. Guest piano soloist William Fried, Smith Center for the Arts Ryan Concert Hall	4:00 p.m. Jane Veren lecture, Moore II 4:00 p.m. Spring Job Fair, Slavin Center '64 Hall and Soft Lounge 7:00 p.m. BOP Informational Coffeehouse, McPhail's	4:00 p.m. CTE TAPAS presentation—Round Table on Technology and Teaching, Feinstein 304 7:00 p.m. Euthanasia lecture, Moore II	5:30 p.m. Economics Quiz Bowl, Moore I 7:00 p.m. "Breaking the Silence about Eating Disorders" discussion, Aquinas Lounge 7:30 p.m. Galway Kinnell poetry reading, Feinstein 400	12 noon Class of 2009 JRW Ring Premiere 4:00 p.m. Career Services: Choosing Your Major, Slavin 117 7:00 p.m. "In the Womb" film, Moore I

Judicial Review

Date: Feb. 7, 2007

Subject: Judicial Hearing Outcome

Charges: Alcohol (second violation)—underage possession; found responsible

Sanctions: \$150 fine; 20 community service hours; alcohol education class; parental notification; disciplinary probation through May 7, 2007

Date: Feb. 16, 2007

Subject: Judicial Hearing Outcome

Charges: Alcohol (first violation)—underage possession—found responsible; drug (1st violation)—possession and use of marijuana—found responsible

Sanctions: \$250 fine; 20 community service hours; drug education class; parental notification; disciplinary probation through May 15, 2007

Date: Feb. 22, 2007

Subject: Judicial Hearing Outcome

Charges: Alcohol (second violation)—underage consumption with hospital transport—found responsible; drugs (first violation)—unlawful possession of prescription drugs—found responsible; theft—removing prescription drug from another student's drawer—found responsible

Sanctions: 20 hours of community service; reflection paper; alcohol education class; involvement with an on-campus social service organization; parental notification; disciplinary probation through Oct. 1, 2007

Date: Feb. 27, 2007

Subject: Judicial Hearing Outcome

Charge: Physical Abuse—found responsible

Sanctions: Suspension through the end of fall 2007 semester (effective immediately)

Date: Feb. 28, 2007

Subject: Judicial Hearing Outcome

Charge: Alcohol (second violation)—underage consumption, intoxication with hospital transport—found responsible

Sanctions: \$250 fine; reflection paper; alcohol education class; parental notification; disciplinary probation through May 15, 2007

Date: March 19, 2007

Subject: Judicial Hearing Outcome

Charges: Drugs—possession and use of marijuana, paraphernalia—found responsible

Sanctions: \$250 fine; drug education class; parental notification; disciplinary probation through May 15, 2007

Accuracy Watch

The Cowl is committed to accuracy and carefully checks every article that goes into print to ensure that the facts are presented clearly and truthfully. If you find an error in any article, please e-mail the editor at thecowl@providence.edu. Corrections will be printed as necessary on page 2.

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Habitat gives structure to spring breaks

PC's Habitat for Humanity spring break trips sent 98 participants to help build houses from Massachusetts to North Carolina.

BY RICK KURKER '09
NEWS STAFF

With almost 100 Providence College participants this year, Habitat for Humanity had more students involved in the program at the College than ever before, according to Chris Arth '07, HFH treasurer. This number will continue to increase, he hopes, as more students seek alternative ways of spending their spring break.

This year, 98 participants traveled to 11 different cities to work with local HFH affiliates, according to Kevin Moore '07, President of Habitat for Humanity's PC chapter.

"The Habitat for Humanity campus chapter here at PC gives students the opportunity to raise funds for HFH, participate in awareness-raising opportunities including guest speakers and homelessness sleep-outs, and actively build affordable homes with HFH," Moore said.

He added that the campus chapter organizes Saturday builds with the HFH program in Providence in addition to the alternative spring break programs, weekend trips, and a week-long summer trip. According to Moore, the sites that students from Providence College attended this year were: Florence, Mass.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Westchester, N.Y.; Camden, N.J.; York, Pa.; Lebanon, Penn.; Arnold, Md.;

Arlington, Va.; Mechanicsville, Va.; Rocky Mount, N.C.; and Concord, N.C.

"Participants volunteered doing a number of jobs, ranging from demolition, to framing, to siding and roof work to finish carpentry work," Moore said. "Each group worked for the week, in many cases alongside future HFH homeowners who are required to complete 500 hours of 'sweat equity' by working on their own homes or on the homes of other HFH families in order to receive an interest-free mortgage on their home."

Students from several of the sites shared positive experiences about their trips.

"Habitat for Humanity is a great experience, and I had an awesome group this year," Arth said.

Arth, who was an Habitat for Humanity co-leader with Frances Ford '07, said that he and his group went to Florence, Mass., to help build a house for a middle-aged woman who lives with her daughter and has lived in the same apartment for 30 years. Arth said he particularly liked the location this year because it was more local and therefore easier to see the direct effects of the group's work.

Ford also said she liked that she was able to go to a site closely.

"You don't realize until you go there how having a house can change your life," she said.

Ford said she started off with Habitat for Humanity during her sophomore year. She said she had a desire to do service during spring break, and when she heard about Habitat for Humanity, she decided to try it out.

"I went to North Carolina my sophomore year and then led a group in North Carolina the next year," she said. "This time I wanted a different local experience, not just a site that had warm weather."

Arth said that he and his group will be getting together with the family this week for a visit, indicating the closeness between the volunteers and the family they helped.

For those students leading the trip, the fun was coupled with great responsibility.

"My role this year was to help lead a group of eight other students to Mechanicsville, Va., where we worked on various projects including, but not limited to demolition, roofing, siding, and interior and exterior design," said Tom Kerrigan '07, a Habitat for Humanity group leader.

"My co-leader and I were required to attend a leadership session as well as organize multiple social gatherings for the members of the group prior to our trip. We were also the drivers of the van, in charge of the budget, and the point people for contacting the Mechanicsville affiliates."

Kerrigan said that this was his third consecutive year participating in Habitat for Humanity at Providence College, having ventured to North Carolina and Maine during prior trips. He said that he has enjoyed making lasting friendships but has also been moved by the things he has seen.

"I have also grown in my awareness and understanding about certain social justice issues," he said. "I have been exposed to a facade of poverty that many students will never see in their lifetime. I would highly recommend this program to anyone who is in the least bit interested in reducing poverty and building a greater sense of community."

Asha Chana '09 especially liked the social aspect of the experience.

"I made 10 new friends," she said. "I never would have met these people if I didn't go on Habitat."

Chana said the people she met had different majors and different viewpoints,

which made her experience more fulfilling. In addition, Chana befriended students from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Penn., who volunteered at the same site.

"I got really close with all the people I met," she said, "and we were all so sad when the week came to an end and we had to come home."

Chana said her group went to Bridgeport, Conn., where they focused on building the side of a house.

Moore said he, too, credits Habitat for Humanity with providing him with a rewarding experience.

"Habitat for Humanity has been a very important and meaningful part of my college experience and my life as a whole," he said. "The trips allow you to take a week from your seemingly hectic college life and step back into the injustice of the reality of our world to work for an incredibly important cause: Affordable housing."

Moore also said that by helping families to build homes, students are not only providing shelter but also giving them a greater chance for success in other aspects of their lives. The social aspects are equally rewarding, he hoped, as students build not only homes during their Habitat for Humanity trips, but also friendships.

"Every PC student should take the opportunity to volunteer a week of their college career to working with Habitat for Humanity through either the alternative spring break trips or week-long summer trip, and I am confident no one will be disappointed," Moore said.

According to the Web site for Habitat for Humanity International, "Habitat has built more than 225,000 houses around the world, providing more than 1 million people in more than 3,000 communities with safe, decent, affordable shelter."

StuCo speaks out on censorship, allocations

BY JENNIFER JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

As the midway point of the spring semester rolls by, Student Congress is picking up the pace. In its two sessions since Spring Break, Congress has passed a piece of legislation and presented a report on the study of allocations.

With a 39 to 19 vote, a declaration entitled SSC57-01 passed on Tuesday, March 13. The legislation states, "it is the sentiment of the Student Congress that suppression of academic, social, or other materials, under any auspices, religious or otherwise, is antithetical to the mission of the College, and unacceptable to its student body." Although drafted with the ban of *The Vagina Monologues* in mind, the legislation is intended to show Student Congress' support for the free expression of any idea on the PC campus.

"It's a bold statement," said Devon Driscoll '08, chair of the planning and steering committee, which introduced the legislation. "Congress wisely saw that while *The Vagina Monologues* is the genesis, it's much larger than that."

This legislation is considered a "sentiment," in which Student Congress expresses its views on a particular situation. There is no action associated with it other than making the sentiment public. According to Amy Baker '07, president of Student Congress, the legislation is "as good as anyone's paying attention to it."

Baker emphasized, however, that the passage of this legislation still has great implications.

"The discussion of this legisla-

tion alone is indication enough that Student Congress is strong" and cares about the students, she said.

Driscoll noted that the sentiment is just as important as some of the congress' actions.

"I think symbolism is just as important to what we do," said Driscoll.

Preceding the vote on the legislation, a great amount of debate arose. Baker disagreed with the truthfulness of the legislation.

"I think [it] brought up some good points; I don't think the legislation was actually correct in a technical sense," she said, adding that she was concerned with the precedent the aye vote set for Student Congress. She also questioned whether defending this legislation was in effect supporting events on campus even if they are antithetical to the Catholic and Dominican values of the College.

"I clearly wish [the vote] went differently, but I'm going to stand behind Student Congress," she said.

Billy Byrne '10 also was concerned that this legislation would force Student Congress to reject censorship of any kind among students.

"There's a point at which you need to draw the line," he said.

On the other hand, some students agreed with the legislation wholeheartedly.

"Fight the fight for student rights," said Jonny Styron '07, treasurer of Student Congress. "The mission is up for interpretation... You need to realize that you can't live in a bubble at Providence College."

Monique Martineau '07 said congress should not apologize for being forthright with the issue.

"Even though it is a response...

we should make that response," she said.

Ad-Hoc Committee on the Study of Allocations

In other news, a report on allocations was given by an ad-hoc committee appointed by Baker to study the process. Chaired by Mike Miller '08, Class of 2008 treasurer, the committee had many suggestions for changing the process by which funds are allocated to clubs and organizations.

“[The new allocations model] requires people to plan, it requires people to spend [money] on responsible things.

Jonny Styron '07

"We've had a lot of discussion," said Miller, adding that the committee studied the processes at other colleges and talked to members of the administration as part of its research.

Styron outlined the current allocations process, which requires clubs to project their budget for the coming year. The congress finance committee—comprised of the executive treasurer, the class treasurers, and the chair of the clubs and organizations committee—listens to the clubs' budget proposals and determines how much money each organization is allocated.

In addition, the current system is usually reactive, meaning that much of the money spent by clubs is reimbursed after a check

is cleared through the congress executive treasurer, the vice president for student services, and the accounts payable office. This means students must sometimes pay out of their own pocket and get paid back later.

Finally, Styron said, because there is no review process at the end of the year to investigate how clubs have spent their money, "there's no accountability."

A new plan proposed by the allocations committee would divide the organizations getting funding into three divisions: Club sports, such as figure skating, rugby, and the Dance Team; class-appointed committees and subordinate boards, such as Board of Programers (BOP), Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA), Commencement Core, and Junior Ring Weekend Core; and clubs and organizations, which is the remainder of the clubs and organizations receiving funding from congress.

Under this new system, money for club sports would encompass 10 to 12 percent of the overall allocations budget and would be given to the director of intramural and club sports, who could then allocate funds to each club sport. The committee suggested that this director, rather than the finance committee, would have a better grasp on the needs of the club sports.

Operational funds, not to exceed \$100 for any organization, would be distributed at the beginning of the academic year to cover expenses related to the administration of the club.

In addition, class-appointed committees and subordinate organizations would receive allocations based on their fixed-cost expenses projected over the semester. The remainder of allo-

cations would be doled out on an event-by-event basis after review from the finance committee, which, under the new plan, would add a seventh member appointed by congress, whose sole role would be on the committee.

Some parts of the new plan were received positively.

"Its treatment of new clubs is probably one of the best things this report does," said Baker, referring to the report's recommendation that new clubs receive event-by-event funding immediately, rather than waiting three semesters, as the current policy states.

"We're giving them the ability to get started," said Yara Youssef '08 chair of the clubs and organizations committee.

Styron emphasized that the event-by-event requests for funding would make funds available to active clubs, rather than money being stuck in the accounts of clubs that have run few activities.

"It requires people to plan, it requires people to spend it on responsible things," said Styron.

Other students addressed concerns with the proposal, saying it puts too much power in the hands of the seven finance committee members and could be inefficient because the allocations process takes place all year long.

The committee said it would take objections into consideration. A new proposal will most likely be issued before the end of the year, but no change to the current system is thought to occur this semester.

"We have to establish a new allocations process at Providence College some time in the near future," said Miller. "This is a system that really stresses responsibility and accountability for students."

Congress candidates discuss platforms

BY JOE MILLER '10

NEWS STAFF

Alcohol abuse. The controversy over *The Vagina Monologues*. Clubs and activities—and the money that funds them.

These were only a few of the topics addressed at the debate for Student Congress executive board president, held at 9:00 p.m. on March 13 in McPhail's. The three presidential candidates—Andy Fechtel '08, Nicole Picard '08, and Yara Youssef '08—as well as those seeking other offices are preparing for the March 27 and 28 voting on ANGEL, which will decide the executive board of the 58th Student Congress next year.

President

During the debate, which was sponsored by PC-TV, Student Congress, and *The Cowl*, Fechtel talked about the importance of leadership style and cited his experience in that area as support for his candidacy. In addition to being a publicity committee member and then chairman, orientation leader, ring committee chairman, and recipient of the Emerging Leader Award, he has served as president of the Class of 2008 for one year.

"I have established close, meaningful relationships with all levels of the community," he said. "The unmatched experience I have will allow me to do what's necessary."

Picard has been vice president of her class for three years and said she would like to pursue a better relationship between various members of the college community if elected. Specifically, she mentioned the need for increased communication between students and administration.

"Students really are the heartbeat of this institution," she said.

Youssef has served as a member and chair of the clubs and organizations committee, and said she feels that her record as a "consistent contributor" makes her the best candidate for the job. She said that since she has been exposed to a wide variety of students in this position, she has a unique perspective of their concerns. One of her goals for congress as a whole would be to establish a "respectful and responsible relationship with other students on campus."

The first question of the debate dealt with the issues each candidate would bring to the administration if elected.

Fechtels spoke about alcohol abuse and criticized one proposed measure to address that problem: "I don't think that academics is the way to fix this. We need to work on alcohol and we need to work on academics, but we can't use one to address the other."

Picard, on the other hand, mentioned the housing situation and the overcrowding that students face on a yearly basis. She expressed her disapproval of a system that regularly forces students into rooms designed to hold one or two fewer people.

Youssef talked about alcohol abuse, saying it "is a problem that we'll all have to face and deal with." She connected it to the availability of clubs and organizations, asking, "Are we making sure that every student has the ability to be involved?"

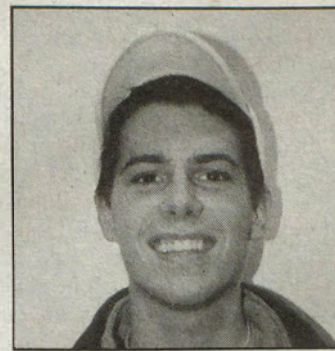
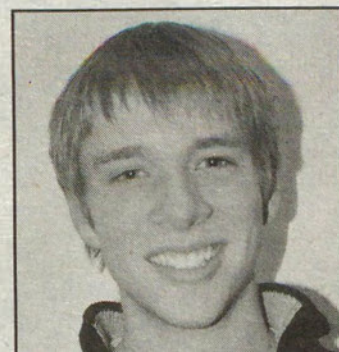
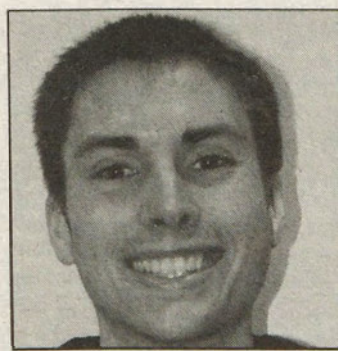
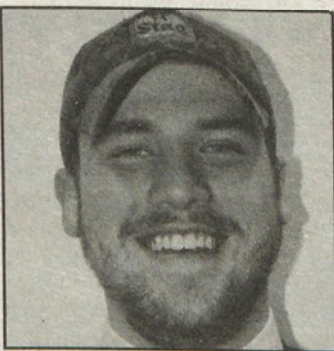
The candidates were asked about the establishment of a code of academic integrity, and whether such an agreement would include a "rat clause" that would require students to report offenders. While all three agreed that a code would be a positive step, the details of their responses differed.

"I think it would hold Providence College students to a higher standard, enhancing them as a person and as a student," said Picard, who has served on the academic appeals board. Regarding the self-maintained clause, she described it as "a great way to teach students and have them grow in that regard."

Youssef said a code would support the school's mission and motto, saying, "if we don't have an honor code, that speaks measures."

"We should be given the faith from the administration that there are students who can uphold an honor code . . . it has to be left up to the students," she added.

Fechtels said if a code was put into place, "it would deal with education, it would



Left to right, from top: Andy Fechtel '08, Yara Youssef '08, Nicole Picard '08, Mike Miller '08, Michelle Palmerino '09, Billy Byrne '09, Devin Driscoll '08, Claire Seguin '08, Vanessa Coelho '08, Liz Wolf '09, and Will Bromstedt '09.

deal with vandalism, and I think it would help with the alcohol problem." He also said that a good honor code with a clause for student responsibility would phase out some of the practical obstacles to applying it.

The candidates were asked about a recent assessment that 20 percent of the students comprise 80 percent of the involvement in student organizations at PC.

"Those numbers are terribly skewed," said Picard. "Most PC students do participate in many activities." She added that it is the responsibility of Congress to work with and build on the clubs and organizations that already exist.

Youssef was more critical in her approach, saying that "there is a problem with involvement on this campus."

"There's too much unstructured time. Congress has to be an effective coordinator of student activities," she said, and also suggested that advertising among the community be improved.

Fechtels disagreed with the characterization of involvement as so heavily concentrated to a few students, saying, "I don't think the numbers are exactly 80/20." He did, however, mention the structural system and allocations process as areas that could be examined for improvement.

The issue of budget allocations for clubs and organizations has been a contentious one, and the candidates' responses addressed both fiscal responsibility and the process itself.

Picard supported the current situation, describing the system of "clubs writing reports, coming to the allocations committee, and essentially pleading their case" as "effective."

Youssef, who made the role of these activities a theme throughout the evening, said that the allocations process is a "huge issue," and that "the current system is not meeting the needs of the students." She attributed this to a lack of checks and balances within the system: "Clubs are asking us for more money, we're reimbursing them with money, and we don't know how the events even went."

Fechtels, who referred to his involvement with Junior Ring Weekend, also advocated for increased accountability. "If we're going to give these clubs money, how well are they going to spend it?" he asked.

On the topic of diversity, Fechtels—a resident of Missouri—said that "we need to look at exactly what's going on in the admissions process." He said that the new SAT policy instituted by Fr. Shanley will be helpful in strengthening the college's diversity.

Picard pointed to the fact that PC is a "small, liberal arts college in New England

. . . we're going to attract students from small, liberal arts high schools in New England." She emphasized the need for "diversity of race as well as diversity of mind and thought" among the student body.

Youssef said the situation encompasses more than racial diversity and that the school needs to approach each aspect differently. She advocated an increased awareness of the multicultural presence on campus, suggesting that the Balfour Center should receive more exposure during events, such as prospective student tours.

All three candidates agreed that some element of balance is needed in the sensitive area of freedom of speech and censorship—a topic recently manifested in the controversy over the production of *The Vagina Monologues*.

"Have the students come to understand why Father Shanley made that decision?" said Youssef. "There needs to be a new relationship formed where its not students against administration."

Fechtels said: "Father Shanley has made a decision, and it's not going to change . . . Instead of hitting the wall head-on, work around it" through alternatives.

"Censorship on a Catholic college campus is a difficult topic," acknowledged Picard. "There needs to be a compromise between this Catholic overtone and the ability for freedom of speech."

Vice president

While the debate featured only the presidential candidates, three other positions will also be in the election next week.

Devin Driscoll '08, Claire Seguin '08, Billy Byrne '09, and Michelle Palmerino '09 are running for executive vice president, a role that carries the added significance of membership on the Board of Programers (BOP).

Driscoll has prided himself on being "as involved in the process as a non-member can be," serving as chair of the planning and steering committee as well as the strategic plan committee. He said he is familiar with the report just released by the latter group.

"It's going to be growing pains, and I envision myself helping to work through any problems that may arise," he said. Overall, Driscoll said, "the important thing for me is to be an advocate for every student at PC." He would like to change the perception of congress as an exclusive group and work toward a greater integration of minority voices on campus and feels that the many relationships he has established with members of the faculty and administration would help him in this goal.

Seguin cited her three years of experience with congress outreach as well as her role as class representative. She described her platform as focusing on "transparency and action."

"I think those are the two most important things that are needed on congress next year," she said. "I'm a very legislative-oriented congress member. Legislation is very necessary to voice opinions and establish a map of where congress is going." She added that "congress needs to back up legislation they pass with actual action."

Byrne, currently a class representative, described himself as "a very future-seeking person" and emphasized the significance of "expecting the unexpected."

"I see congress in the future becoming a more legislative voice for the student body, as well as dealing on the spot with any issues that come up," he said.

If elected, he also plans to work closely with BOP to establish alternative activities that attract students' attention and do not encourage the abuse of alcohol.

Palermينو is also presently a class representative and has served in this capacity for two years. She has also been a member of the student life committee for both of her years at PC, and said this involvement will help her "to directly get the feedback of all the students."

"We can still have independence while flourishing within the mission statement," she said. "[This balance] is a big story on campus and I believe that has yet to be found, and I'd like to work toward that." She also mentioned that she would like to improve communication between congress and the rest of the student body, especially through more efficient advertising.

Treasurer

Michael Miller '08 is running uncontested for the position of executive treasurer, and said he believes his experience in this role—he has served as his class treasurer since his freshman year and is currently chair of the allocations ad hoc committee—has prepared him well for this new set of duties.

"As treasurer, one of your responsibilities is to deal with the allocations process. That's one of the big roles," he said. "I feel that because I've been on this committee, I know what's going on. It'll help me put this whole process into practice."

Secretary

Will Bromstedt '09, Vanessa Coelho '08, and Elizabeth Wolf '09 are the contenders for the position of executive secretary.

BOP, BMSA elections nearly all uncontested

BY BETH FINAN '07
NEWS STAFF

Two of the largest student organizations—The Board of Programers (BOP) and the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs—will be holding campuswide elections for their respective 2007-2008 executive boards. All of the races for the Board of Programers (BOP) and the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA) leadership are unopposed, with the exception of BOP treasurer.

BOP

Jenna Pettinicchi '08 is running for BOP president. Having held many leadership positions in other campus organizations and, as a member of the Dirigo Leadership Honor Society, Pettinicchi said she believes like she has developed the skills and tools needed to lead a club as large and important as BOP.

"From the various activities, workshops, and organizations I have engaged myself in, I have taken away a different perspective," she said. "I know what it means to be in the shoes of those that are members of an organization and those that are the leaders of one."

Stemming from her two years of experience on BOP, Pettinicchi said she has a great passion for the board and its mission, and a sense of the kind of leadership style needed to run it.

"As president I really want to be there as a facilitator for the rest of the board, to help each member realize their potential, help foster their creativity, and challenge to think and act outside of the box," she said. "I would never envision the president as someone who imposes their beliefs or opinions on the board but rather as someone there to represent the board . . . and give and receive mutual respect amongst each member and executive position."

Patrick Selby '08 is running for vice president of BOP. The vice president traditionally serves as BOP's representative to Student Congress. Selby already has experience in serving as a link between BOP and congress, as a member of congress' allocations committee this year.

"I intend as vice president to better the relationship between Congress and BOP, in hopes that it will become much more proactive as opposed to reactive," he said.

Leslie Gerhardt '08, who is running for secretary, said she felt compelled to run for the executive board after having learned a great deal about event planning from her previous two years of Board experience.

"I definitely have an understanding of the dynamics under which BOP operates," she said. "I have planned everything from small events in McPhail's to large-scale concerts in Peterson. I feel I can apply everything I have learned as a Board member to a leadership position, as well as extend my knowledge to incoming members."

The race for treasurer is the only race which is contested. The two candidates are Jeff Peterson '08 and John O'Donoghue '08.

Peterson, a finance major, recognizes the great responsibility that comes along with serving as the treasurer.

"I consider myself a very organized person, so I will make sure that nothing is lost in the shuffle and that the funds given to BOP are used in the most efficient way possible," he said. "We are given the most money of any club on campus, which makes it that much more important to use this money in a way that will truly benefit PC."

O'Donoghue could not be reached for comment.

All of the candidates have set high goals for next year's board. They mentioned that they would all work to sponsor events that appeal to various interests of the students and would like to continue the trend of co-sponsoring events with groups such as BMSA and the Office of Residence Life.

"I envision our exec board for next year having an unbelievable dynamic," said Selby. "We are all very passionate about BOP, get along extremely well, and will properly lead BOP in the right direction."

BMSA

Running for president of BMSA is Angely Martinez '08, who is currently the vice president of Amigos Unidos. The president is at the helm of an umbrella organization that includes 11 different cultural organizations. This prospect does not faze Martinez; she is looking forward to representing the organization "with an open mind and an attentive ear."

"At first glance, this campus is not diverse by any means," said Martinez. "This only [reiterates] why we should have an organization that helps to promote diversity issues on campus. This helps to educate the minds of different people, which is a difficult task but so rewarding at the end." Martinez noted many issues that BMSA tackles, such as human trafficking, HIV/AIDS, and discrimination in the workplace can affect everyone, regardless of race.

Martinez said that as president, she will make an effort to co-sponsor events with other organizations, both on campus and in the community to put the relatively young organization "on the map."

"I think that we should co-sponsor events with outside organizations because that can help put BMSA, as well as Providence College, in the limelight, which in turn can help increase the applicant pool and diversity, amongst other things," she said.

Karen Mercado '08 is running for vice president of BMSA. She has been involved with the organization since her freshman year, holding the office of co-secretary for both the Asian-American Association and the African-American Association, as well as serving as president of the Asian-American Association. Next year, presiding over all of the organizations under BMSA, Mercado would like to be "visible,

effective, and collaborative."

"The exec boards of previous years have put in a lot of hard work to make BMSA a noted organization here at PC," she said. "I would like to build on the strong foundation we have already established and continue to work collaboratively with other PC clubs."

Martinez and Mercado both said the executive board's main goal for the next year would be to continue to encourage all students to become involved in BMSA.

"As an observer, I don't like the fact that some events hosted either by BMSA or the organizations under its umbrella have this stigma attached to it that you have to be a student of color to participate," said Martinez. "I want to help change the current image entirely and try to show that BMSA wants to appeal to all audiences without losing its identity as a promoter of cultural and diverse issues."

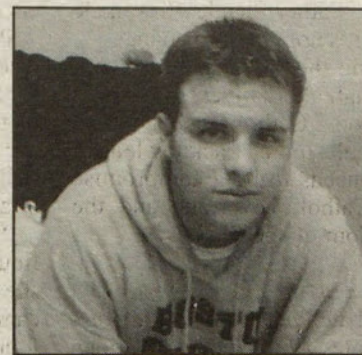
"Any person, regardless of race or background, can join a group based on their interest. They don't have to be Asian to join Asian-Am, they don't have to be African-American to join Afro-Am—all are welcome," she said. "BMSA is open to all students and supports all efforts toward a greater appreciation of cultures."

As the future treasurer of BMSA, Kevin Johnson '08 said his responsibilities will include distributing funds and preparing the budget. Johnson said he recognizes the importance of BMSA's presence on campus.

"While many students see the need for diversity, BMSA serves as an instrument to bring diversity on-campus, especially for those that seek it," he said.

Asha Chana '09 is running uncontested for BMSA secretary. Having attended nearly all the events offered in association with Target Diversity Week, Chana said she hopes everyone feels welcome at such events. She added, however, that things are moving in the right direction.

"I feel like the campus is becoming more and more aware," she said.



Left to right, from top: BOP candidates Jenna Pettinicchi '08, Patrick Selby '08, Jeff Peterson '08, John O'Donoghue '08, and Leslie Gerhardt '08; BMSA candidates Karen Mercado '08, Kevin Johnson '08, Angely Martinez '08, and Asha Chana '09.

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Diversity: Students seek to educate community

continued from front page

India.Arie, and the All-American Rejects.

At times, Cross has not only been the victim of racial profiling at the College but also of hateful remarks and offenses. Earlier in the semester while walking to Fennell Hall on a Saturday night, a group of PC students passed by him and remarked, "We just walked by the campus ghetto."

Another time, students called Cross and his black roommate a derogatory name and threw two-liter bottles of soda at them without an explanation. Once at nighttime, a female PC student got out of a PC shuttle, saw Cross and his friends, said, "Uh oh," and ran away in the opposite direction.

"It's so over the top. It's like a slap in the face," said Cross. "It's rough because my first reaction is to say something or do more than that, but I feel I have no choice but to hold my tongue." Such racism stems, he believes, from ignorance, negative experiences with minorities in the past, and a lack of understanding of other cultures. "I don't think there's one way to justify or explain it. I would hope it's not all out of hatred," Cross said.

He noted that one of the best ways to combat racism and hatred is to talk about diversity in the classroom setting. A sociology major with a double minor in black studies and women's studies, Cross said he has found many students to be accepting in his classes, where he often engages in detailed discussions about racial and ethnic diversity, inequality, and racism.

"The classes I'm in tend to attract students who want to get a better understanding of what it's like to be a minority," Cross said. "It's just nice to see people who want to help the cause, who want to hear your story—people who want to get to know the real you."

Often, minority students find comfort in the interactions they have with students of similar backgrounds. Tiffany Foynes '07, a Chinese American from Braintree, Mass., has developed several friendships

with other members of the College's Asian American Association with whom she shares her heritage.

"Being able to talk with the few other Chinese students about how we spent Chinese New Year or where we went last Sunday for Dim Sum is comforting and calming," Foynes said.

Looking back on her four years in the classroom setting, Foynes does not recall having ever experienced racism from faculty or staff but nevertheless believes that more members of the administration need to understand the value of diversity in the classroom.

"I believe that having different ideas and

“

... People are so interesting if you seek first to understand them, understand their body language and their hearts.

Dr. Inghis Morgan-Gardner

”

viewpoints in the classroom contributes much to our learning and to our awareness," she said.

Students who lack, or choose to ignore, this awareness have discriminated against Foynes for her ethnicity, she said. Because she is part American, some students cannot tell from first glance that she is Chinese and will make derogatory comments in her presence.

"I feel that many Caucasian students are more willing to make racist remarks when no minorities are around. Whether it is a joke, an impression, or a mere mention of a stereotype, some students are unaware that they are being discriminatory," Foynes said. "Even if they do not necessarily intend to be prejudiced or hurtful, they are being no less racist."

Upon learning that Foynes is Chinese,

they often ask her the same derogatory questions, such as, "Do you eat rice all the time?" and "Can you do karate?"

Once during a group discussion, a student singled Foynes out as being Asian and commented on her slanted eyes, flat face, and dark hair. "He went on to stereotype me as a dog eater and a 'ching chon, pin pong' speaker," said an emotional Foynes. "I was fortunately able to remain calm and correct his bigotry. In actuality, I was crying on the inside."

Recent efforts have been made on campus to address the prejudices that exist at PC and in society as a whole, including Target Diversity Week, sponsored by the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA), and an upcoming seminar with Multicultural Scholarship Program (MSP) recipients and members of Students Organized Against Racism (SOAR) scheduled for March 30. The seminar is intended to provide students with an outlet through which they can share their experiences of racial and ethnic inequality in the classroom and devise solutions to help ameliorate the problem.

Target Diversity Week, which features events about diversity in the workplace, the disparities in Darfur, and multilingual rosaries, covers diversity not just in relation to race and ethnicity, but also in terms of disabilities, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status. Polyana De Oliveira '07, president of BMSA, has been planning the event with other BMSA board members Julia Paolucci '07, Mike Pennuto '07, and Jennifer Senosiain '07 since the beginning of the school year.

"I think it's important to have these events because oftentimes PC students are trapped in a bubble . . . and these events allow students to step outside their comfort levels and experience a little bit of something else the world has to offer," De Oliveira said. "I don't think this is a matter of students of color versus non students of color. It's a matter of having a different experience altogether, or learning about what's going on in the rest of world and how to deal with it."

De Oliveira, who is Brazilian, said she has never experienced any personal attacks on campus and instead looks to others' ignorance as a chance to educate the greater community about diversity. "I'll say, 'No, actually, we don't speak Spanish in Brazil. It's Portuguese . . .,'" said De Oliveira. "Yes, some people really just don't care, but some people do care, and some people do ask questions."

Dr. Inghis Morgan-Gardner, director of the MSP program and assistant dean of multicultural affairs in the Balfour Center for Multicultural Affairs, also spoke to the importance of educating students, faculty, and staff about diversity at PC and in the greater community.

During her time working with MSP scholars such as Cross and Foynes, Morgan-Gardner said she has heard countless stories about racism on campus, and has sought to help students find positive ways of coping.

"When students come here, I have to teach them forgiveness," she said. Forgiving others, she noted, does not mean one has to approve, excuse, or agree with what another has said or done. Rather, it is about acknowledging what has occurred and deciding to carry on with life. "You have to move on and begin the healing process," Morgan-Gardner said.

Along with forgiveness comes the power of interaction among all members of the College community. To hear the stories of PC's minorities, and to discover who they are as people, Morgan-Gardner noted, is perhaps the best way of breaking down stereotypes and prejudices.

"We are more than our athleticism. We are more than the color of our skin or the sound of our voice," said Morgan-Gardner on behalf of minorities at PC. "To understand this, people need to talk to each other and be empathetic listeners. . . . People are so interesting if you seek first to understand them, understand their body language and their hearts. There is power in your thoughts, words, attitudes, and actions."

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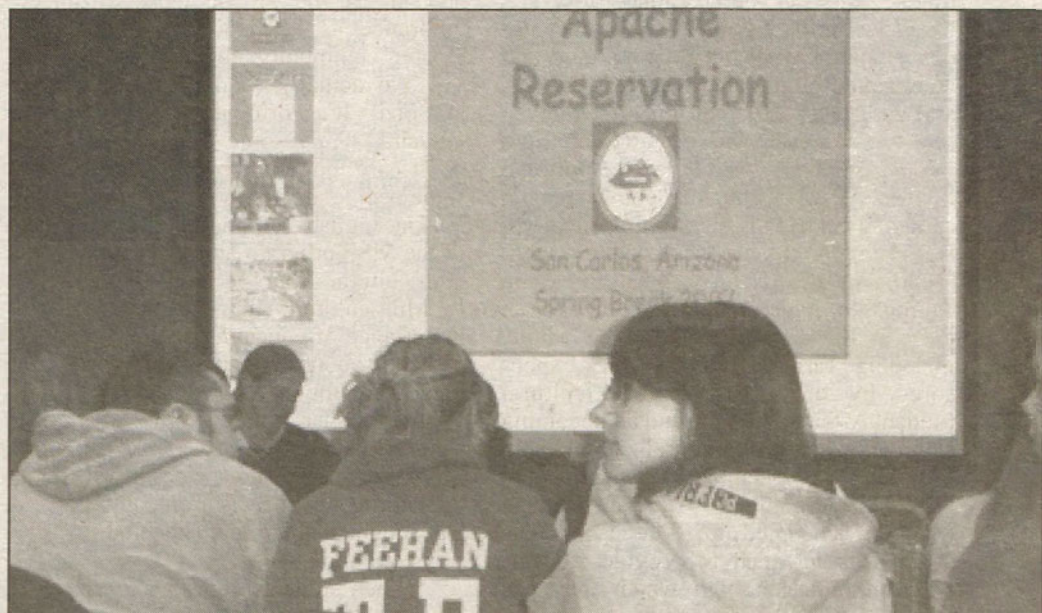
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Snapshots of Target Diversity Week at PC



Students listen during an intercultural experiences panel.

JOHN OWENS '07/The Cowl



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Above: Tiffany Foynes '07 and Laurie Haverinen '07 converse before attending a lecture.



A sex-trafficking lecture in Moore Hall helps shed some light on an obscure issue.

KATIE HOGAN '09/The Cowl

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Seminar integrates disciplines

BY RICK KURKER '09
NEWS STAFF

A new addition to Providence College's academic life has emerged on campus this year: The Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar (IFS). This committee, comprised of eight faculty members from different fields of study, is currently in the midst of its pilot year this semester.

Each member of the seminar must lead a session by presenting an article or chapter in a book that features an issue of interest in his or her own discipline. This semester, the overall theme is "Being Human," and session topics include "What Does the Human Genome Project (HGP) Tell Us About What It Is to be Human," led by Father Austriaco, and "Race, Ethnicity and Globalization," led by Dr. Valkeakari.

In addition, two open forums will be held. The first forum will be led by a guest lecturer who will discuss his own work related to theme. The other forum, which will take place at the end of the semester, will be an event at which members of the group can share their own research developments as well as teaching and learning experiences.

"We hope that these seminars will communicate to the students that their professors are engaging in active learning," Father Torchia said. "For me thus far, it has been enriching because it allows us to participate in an interchange of ideas."

Father Torchia said the seminars are

intended to foster growth out of opposing viewpoints. The format of the seminars is good for sustaining conversation about the issue at hand.

"It is very interesting to discuss issues across interdisciplinary lines," he said.

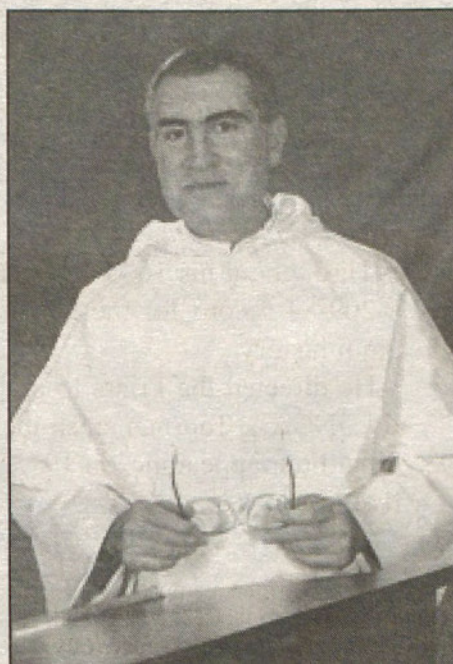
Possible topics for seminars in future years include memory, time, race and ethnicity, the environment, sacrifice, and knowledge. Although these seminars are

not open to students, all are welcome to the open lectures. On Monday, March 23, Dr. Ian Tattersall, a paleoanthropologist from the American Museum of Natural History, will be coming to the College to speak on human origins. A private seminar

meeting will be held prior to his public lecture, at 7:30 p.m., where the lecture is open to all members of the College community.

"For me as a Dominican, the topic of being human is especially important because it allows for discussion of what is the essential and fundamental truth about our humanism," Father Torchia said. "We hope that students will find the public lectures interesting as well."

The eight members of the committee, chosen from an pool of 22 applicants, are: Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P., assistant professor of biology and special lecturer in theology; Louis A. Beaubien, instructor of management; Dr. Deborah P. Goessling, associate professor of education; Dr. Paul



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Rev. Joseph Torchia, O.P. leads the meetings for the Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar.

L. Gondreau, associate professor of theology; Dr. Susan K. McCarthy, associate professor of political science; Dr. Thomas F. Strasser, assistant professor of art history; Rev. Joseph Torchia, O.P., associate professor of philosophy; and Dr. Tuire M. Valkeakari, assistant professor of English.

The participants were chosen based on a variety of qualifications, such as the quality of the essays and projects each submitted for consideration, the interest of the candidates, and the potential contribution each person would make toward the overall goals of the committee. Each member receives, beginning in the spring semester, a \$3,000 stipend and a one course-load reduction in teaching. Father Torchia was chosen to run the meetings due to his character, seniority, and project. This post comes with an additional \$1,000 stipend.

Election: 11 students run for Congress

continued from page 4

Bromstedt has served as class representative for two years, as well as on the clubs and organizations committee and Congress Outreach. He has also been a student representative in judicial affairs.

"I'm organized. I just think I'd be really good for the position," he said. "I'm observant. I take good notes."

He also mentioned that he would like to address some of the "little things" around campus, such as the policy that meat is not served on campus during Fridays in Lent.

Coelho is familiar with the elections process, as she has served as chair of elections for the past two years.

"As secretary, to keep congress in order, I feel like I have the best qualifications," she said. "I feel like I'm a very organized person, and it really comes down to that."

She also referred to the perspective she has gained from her experiences in other congress roles: "I feel like since I've been on committees for the past few years, I can bring something different to exec. Congress and exec are so different."

Wolf has been involved in a variety of different activities, including the Room on a Dime program, ceremonies around Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and working with the new management in Raymond Hall Cafeteria. She emphasized unity and communication between Congress and the rest of the students, saying that the activities she has helped to coordinate "really brought a lot of students together, and that's a really important issue."

"It's a really critical time," she said. "I have a good sense of where this school should be going."

Students can watch the panel discussion with the three candidates for executive president of Student Congress on PCTV 52 at 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m., 12:00 a.m., and 2:00 a.m. until Wednesday, March 28. The discussion and campaign commercials can be seen at www.youtube.com/pctv52

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Gavitt: Big name in basketball to address grads

continued from front page

was not expected to resume his work at the tournament.

Despite his hospitalization, Patricia S. Vieira, associate vice president for college relations and planning, said the College still anticipates Gavitt's delivery of the Commencement address. "We haven't heard anything from him or his family that would indicate he will not be speaking at Commencement," Vieira said. "We're looking forward to having him speak, and we're wishing him a speedy recovery."

Assuming he recovers in time for Commencement, Gavitt will be awarded the Veritas Medal—the highest honor the College can bestow—for his unrelenting dedication to the goals and principles of PC.

Gavitt's association with the College dates back to 1962 when he joined the staff of men's basketball Head Coach Joe Mullaney and served as his assistant for four years. After leaving PC to coach at his alma mater, Dartmouth College, Gavitt was named head coach of the Friars in 1969.

Throughout his 10-year tenure as head coach, Gavitt compiled a 209-84 record for the best winning percentage (.713) in program history. He directed the Friars to eight consecutive 20-win season and five NCAA Tournaments, including the school's first NCAA Final Four appearance in 1973. He was named Coach of the Year five times.

A member of PC's Athletic Hall of Fame, he also served as the College's athletic director from 1971-82, expanding the varsity athletics program from seven to 24 sports.

Inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame last year, Gavitt was a founder and the first commissioner of the BIG EAST Conference from 1979-90. He also was the coach of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball Team, served

as chair of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee from 1982-84, was president of the NCAA Foundation from 1995-97, and served as CEO of the Boston Celtics from 1990-94.

In January of this year, the basketball court at the Dunkin' Donuts Center was dedicated in his honor. Gavitt continues to

“ Throughout his 10-year tenure as head coach, Gavitt compiled a 209-84 record for the best winning percentage (.713) in program history.

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serve as chairman emeritus of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and as a radio analyst for Westwood One on its broadcasts of NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament games.

Honorary degree recipients

Along with awarding the Veritas Medal, the College will also recognize four other honorary degree recipients: Arn Chorn-Pond '92, Sister Dolores Crowley, R.S.M., Brother Lawrence D. Goyette, F.S.C. '72, and Dr. Gordon Wood.

Chorn-Pond has demonstrated relentless commitment to bettering the lives of others—particularly children in his native country. A survivor of the Cambodian genocide, Chorn-Pond is the founder of the Cambodian Master Performers Program, in which he is working to preserve and revitalize Khmer traditional arts, especially music.

He has founded or co-founded six organizations, including the Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development, Children of War, Educational Television for Cambodia, and Peace Makers—a U.S.-

based gang intervention program for Southeast Asian youth.

An accomplished flute player, recording artist, and actor, he has received numerous honors, including the Amnesty International Human Rights Award, the Reebok Human Rights Award, the Anne Frank Memorial Award, and the Kohl

Foundation International Peace Prize. Sister Crowley served as the executive director of McAuley House for two decades before retiring last May. Dedicated to bettering the lives of the state's poor and homeless, particularly women and children, Sister Crowley pioneered the concept of transitional housing units for women and children. In fact, while she served as McAuley House director, a 23-unit apartment house for women and children in transition opened in South Providence.

Founded in 1975 by the Sisters of Mercy, McAuley House is an outreach center and meal site that provides the needy with food, clothing, and shelter, along with advocacy and referrals for housing, job placement, and medical assistance.

The house offers lunches six days a week, sometimes serving in excess of 300 meals a day. With Sister Crowley's leadership and that of other Mercy Sisters, the McAuley Corporation has expanded to include a thrift shop, a six-unit building for single residents, and a full-service counsel-

ing and outreach program.

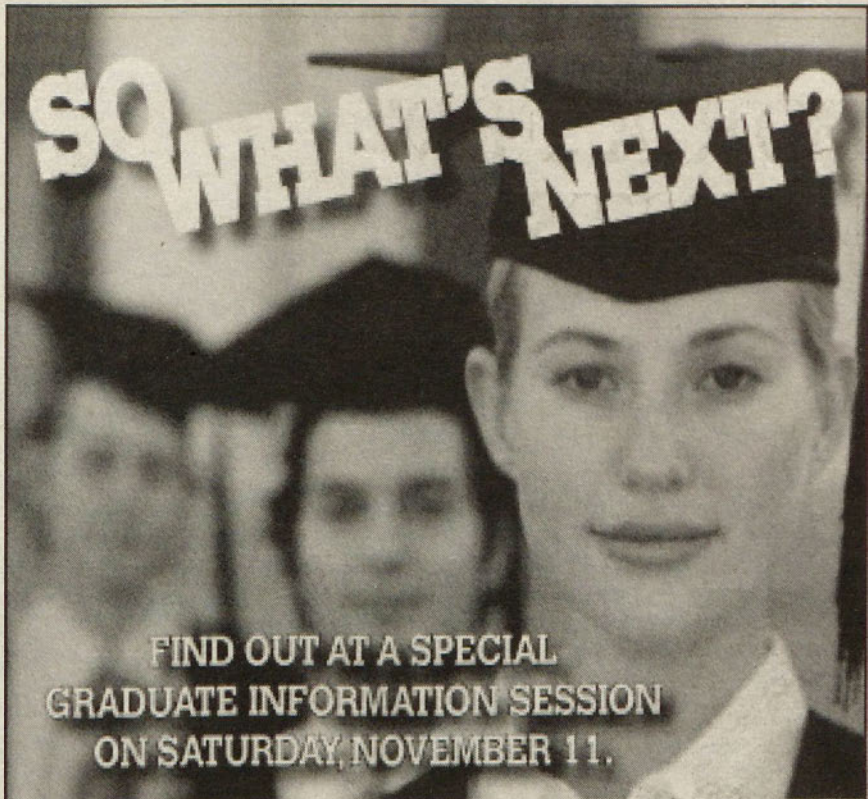
Brother Goyette has dedicated the greater part of his life to enriching the lives of disadvantaged boys as the founder and executive director of San Miguel School in Providence. Established in 1992, San Miguel School is a private, non-sectarian alternative middle school for at-risk boys run by the De La Salle Christian Brothers. The school provides a values-centered education to inner-city boys in grades 5 through 8.

Brother Goyette's establishment of Providence's San Miguel School has led to the establishment of approximately a dozen other San Miguel Schools nationwide. Among other achievements, he was awarded the National Catholic Educational Association (N.C.E.A.)'s Distinguished Teacher Award for the New England Region in 1992 and was one of six educators nationwide to receive the Distinguished Lasallian Education Award in 1997.

Dr. Gordon S. Wood has been a history faculty member at Brown University since 1969. A prolific author, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for History for his 1992 book *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*. His 1969 book, *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776-1787*, won the Bancroft Prize and the John H. Dunning Prize. Wood also is the author of *Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different*, which was published last May.

Wood, who received his Ph.D. from Harvard University, taught at the College of William and Mary, Harvard, and the University of Michigan before joining the Brown faculty. He has traveled across the nation teaching and delivering lectures at a variety of higher-education institutions. He also has served as a consultant to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Pa., and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Virginia.

SQ WHAT'S NEXT?



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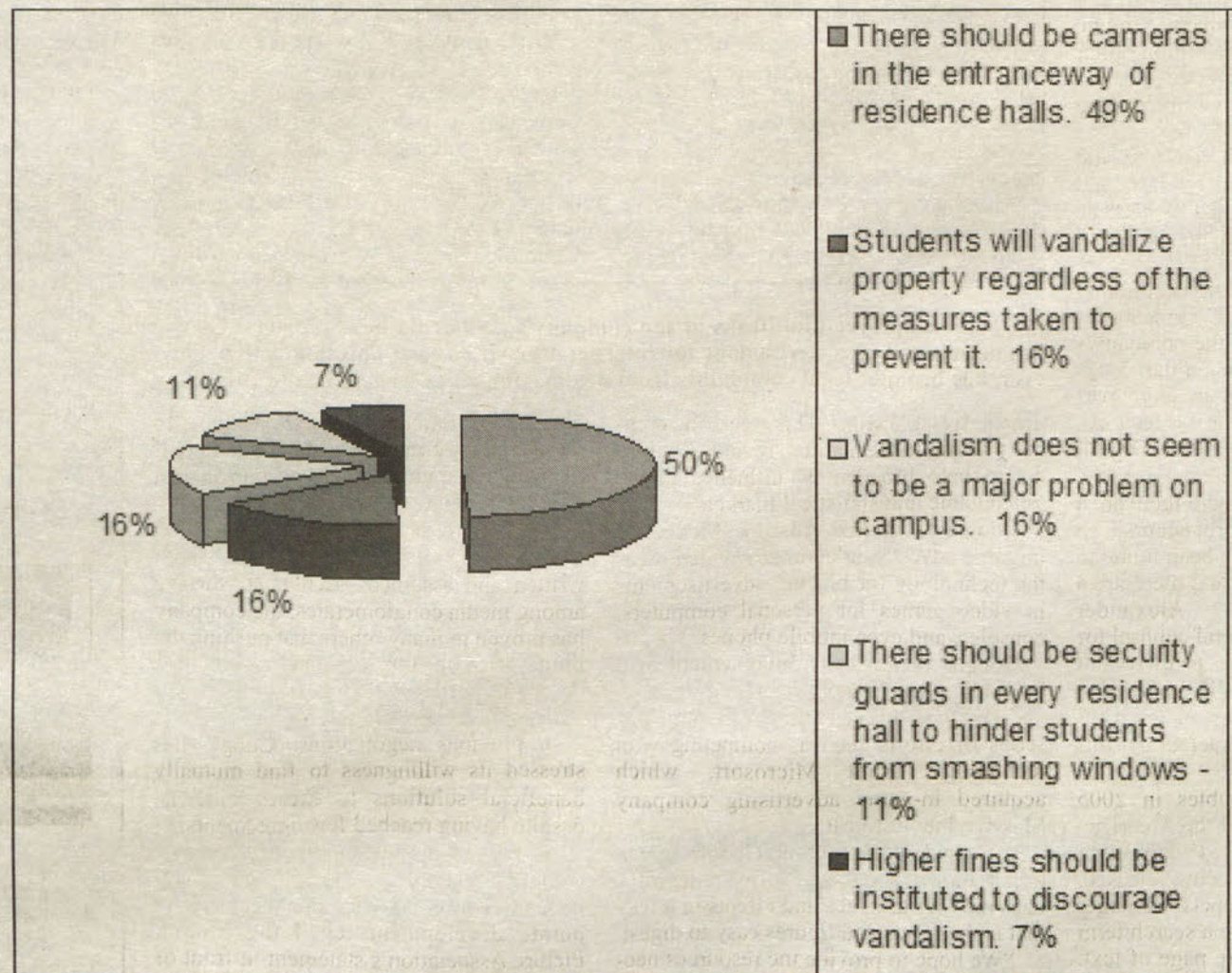
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In its last issue, The Cowl asked its readers what they think can be done to prevent vandalism on campus.

Here's the consensus:



THIS WEEK:

What do you think next year's student leaders need to do to improve Providence College?

- 1.) They should find ways of bridging the gap between students and administration.
- 2.) They should focus on strengthening the communication among student clubs and organizations.
- 3.) They need to advocate for more non-alcoholic events on campus.
- 4.) They must find ways of reaching out to students who are not involved on campus and figure out why this is the case.
- 5.) They need to start listening more to the voices that are sometimes left unheard, such as those of commuters, minorities, and the disabled.

Vote on www.thecowl.com and find out the results in next week's issue of The Cowl.

Google faces googol of issues

BY SARAH VAZ '07
WORLD EDITOR

Next time you check out the latest footage to go viral on YouTube, try to imagine life before the video-sharing Web site hit it big—because it could be shut down in the near future.

While it is no secret that the site has been in hot water before over copyright issues, its new parent company, Google Inc., has been named in a \$1 billion dollar lawsuit by media conglomerate Viacom over what it calls “massive intentional copyright infringement.”

Lawyers for Google and YouTube said their operation is protected by law, and they would not have launched or become involved with an operation that was not legally sound.

The legal principles Google is counting on, known as “safe harbor” protections, have previously worked in the company’s favor. A prior lawsuit over similar copyright issues was dismissed in large part because of the safe harbor protections, which stem from the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

“This is an area of law where there are a bunch of really clear precedents, so Amazon and eBay have both been found to qualify for the safe harbor, and there are a whole bunch more,” Alexander Macgillivray, associate general counsel for products and intellectual property at Google, told Reuters. “We will continue to innovate and continue to host material for people without being distracted by this suit.”

Google faced legal troubles in 2005 when the Authors Guild and the American Association of Publishers filed a lawsuit to prevent Google Print from being released. The software showed snippets of pages from cataloged books where a search term appeared but never an entire page of text. For its part, Google defended the application, questioning whether intellectual property and copyright law weren’t meant to foster the kind of market expansion that occurs when Internet users are introduced to new works. “We’re dedicated to helping the world find information, and there’s too much information in books that cannot yet be found online,” Google said via the company blog.

Google has continued to devote its resources to acquisitions and new ventures



GOOGLE

A Google employee multitasks at the company’s California headquarters. Google has been issuing new technology for Internet users at no cost. This innovation, however, has brought legal complaints from media companies fearing lost profits.

despite its legal woes. This week, the company acquired both software and developers to help broaden its influence in the video game and statistical markets.

Google purchased Adscape Media, an in-game advertising company which owns the technology for placing advertisements in video games for personal computers, consoles, and even mobile phones.

Google believes its involvement will help add value for consumers, advertisers, and creators alike. The move is part of a series of efforts seen as competing with technology giant Microsoft, which acquired in-game advertising company Massive Inc. last year.

In a separate transaction, Google agreed to purchase Trandalyzer, software that utilizes moving graphics and effects in a way that makes facts and figures easy to digest.

“We hope to provide the resources necessary to bring such work to its deserved wider audience by improving and expanding [the software] and making it freely available to any and all users,” Google stated in its company blog.

The company also announced its intention to partner with the Rwandan and Kenyan governments to provide free communications applications to students.

This provision of access to new and useful technologies to wide audiences has been the hallmark of Google Inc.’s success

but also of the complaints from others in the technology industry. Many such complaints have spurred other lawsuits against the search-giant.

While many are standing by the position that Google needs to follow rules—both written and assumed—if it is to survive among media conglomerates, the company has proven to many others that pushing the limits of these rules can lead to unprecedented technological advances that benefit both user and provider.

In previous negotiations, Google has stressed its willingness to find mutually beneficial solutions to these conflicts, despite having reached few agreements.

As part of his vision for the future of Google’s technology, David Drummond, general counsel and vice president of corporate development, cited the Motion Picture Association’s statement in front of a congressional panel that the VCR would kill films, and that Sony’s refusal to back down from the technology. Drummond then cited the fact that VHS and DVDs produce the majority of the film industry’s revenue today.

Michael Goodman, an analyst at Yankee Group, expressed the possible outcome of this conflict, telling Reuters that “in the long run, the media companies are going up the river with out a paddle. They’re fighting a battle that they can’t win.”

Ask PC

Is Google right to push the limits of what you can get for free online?



“Anything to decrease the price for students.”

Christina Johnson '07



“Yeah, free information is a good thing.”

Justine Marino '07



“Everyone likes free stuff, but it’s not necessarily right.”

Emma Pietrantonio '08



“I don’t think it’s right. It’s fair when Web sites offer a portion of something, but the whole thing shouldn’t be free.”

Lauren Johnson '08

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07

Pop Culture News

300 raking in cash, protests

Film ignites debates about politics, east vs. west

BY BRETT CORRIGAN '09
WORLD STAFF

The recent Warner Bros. box office hit 300 has not only broken the boundaries of creativity with its unique cinematography, but it has also led many Iranians to believe that filmmakers have crossed political and ethical boundaries.

The movie, which premiered on March 5, tells the story of the ancient Battle of Thermopylae, in which 300 Spartans of ancient Greece reportedly withstood Persian attacks despite the retreat of the majority of their fellow Greek soldiers who saw the vast Persian army as too sizable to hold back.

The 300 Spartans who chose to fight maintained their ground against the Persian army for three days, which was a major victory in itself despite the fact that they were defeated and killed. It also inspired the remaining Greek warriors to face the Persian invaders and hold them back from gaining control of their lands.

The post-production computer generation of set, locations, armies and virtually

everything else in the movie took a year and 10 special effects companies to develop. The film, which grossed \$70 million in box office sales in its first weekend alone, took only 60 days to shoot because the actors themselves were the only real footage.

Many Iranians are speaking out against the movie in full force, declaring that the depiction of the Persians in the battle insults their ancient culture, they cited many historical distortions in the movie that could be part of a larger “psychological war.” Iranian newspapers have been covering the national discontent with the film throughout the last week, publishing several commentaries from upset readers.

Claiming it is a tactic of psychological warfare, an Iranian newspaper, *Ayende-No*, reported that in the movie “Persians are historical monsters and freaks. They are black creatures with bloody eyes looking like the terrorists of today. Xerxes is eight feet tall, clad chiefly in body piercings and garishly made up.”

The *Iranian Students News Agency* reported on Saturday, March 17 that “the

artists of Fars Art Bureau in southern Iran lashed out at the Hollywood production of 300 in a declaration, dismissing it as a history distortion.”

Javad Shamqadri, an art advisor to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, told the ISNA that 300 is “part of a comprehensive U.S. psychological war aimed at Iranian culture . . . Following the Islamic Revolution in Iran, Hollywood and cultural authorities in the United States initiated studies to figure out how to attack the Iranian culture. Certainly, the recent movie is a product of such studies.”

There is talk in foreign nations that the movie can also be seen as a Hollywood depiction of the war the United States is currently fighting, likening the Taliban and the attacks on Sept. 11 to Persian invaders in Greece, which is where the parallels particularly generate discontent with Iranians.

Despite—or possibly as a result of the controversy—interest in the film has been extremely high, and box office sales for the St. Patrick’s Day weekend rendered it the victor among moviegoers yet again.

Week in Review

Compiled by Mary Kate Nevin '09

Local

Protests keep consulate open

Portuguese consulates in Providence, R.I., and New Bedford, Mass., have agreed to remain open after public outcries from local Portuguese-American communities, according to *The Providence Journal*.

The consulates had been scheduled to close due to budget cutbacks. However, this proposal sparked such passionate demonstrations, and lobbying efforts that Richard Cortes, consul for Rhode Island, revoked the proposal and stated last week that the Providence and the New Bedford consulate would remain open.

"This is terrific news for Rhode Island's Portuguese community," Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., told *The Providence Journal* on Sunday, March 18. "The Providence consulate provides valuable services to thousands of Rhode Islanders. I understand the difficult decision that Portugal faced, and I am glad that it recognized the importance of keeping its representation in our state."

National

New stamp measures introduced

The U.S. Postal Service governing board decided to increase the first-class stamp rate to 41 cents starting on May 14, according to a March 19 *CNN* report. But recent reports say 41 cents may be the highest price you'll ever have to pay.

The governing board also agreed Monday on the proposal of a "forever

stamp," which would have constant rates no matter how much prices increase. This does not mean that the price of the forever stamp will not rise. Forever stamps will be sold at the current price level for first-class stamps. What it does mean for stamp buyers, however, is that once a stamp is purchased, it is valid for future use from that point forward, despite any price increases. It can be used "forever" without requiring any additional postage. The new stamps could go on sale as early as next month.

International

U.S. and North Korea resume talks

The U.S. Treasury Department announced that it has ended its inquiry into \$25 million of North Korean funds in an effort to facilitate a nuclear agreement, the *BBC* reported on Wednesday, March 14.

The money was frozen at a bank in Macau because of money laundering allegations by the United States. It proved to be a considerable obstacle in the negotiations with North Korea to shut down its nuclear reactor at Yongbyon.

North Korean negotiator Kim Kye-gwan warned that his country would not close the nuclear reactor without resolving the issue. The money will now be transferred to an account in Beijing, where the negotiations are set to resume. According to the developing agreement, Pyongyang will now shut down the reactor in exchange for aid.

Fashion

"Cave woman" dress made out of wine

Fashion has never been so intoxicating. Australian scientist Gary Cass has created a dress out of cellulose, woven by bacteria in a vat of fermenting wine. Reuters reported Wednesday, March 14.

"This is art; it is not meant to be practical," Cass stated. "It is meant to be a provocative object, to spark debate about future fashion." Cass constructed his "cave woman" dress by scooping the slimy top layer of cellulose off a vat of fermenting wine. He then layered the cellulose fibers around a blow-up doll and deflated the doll after the fibers shrunk to fit the form of the body.

The dress must be kept wet at all times. Otherwise, as they dry, the cellulose fibers become brittle and break. Cass said the next step is to find a way to make the fibers more flexible. If that can be done, his invention may even become wearable.

"If you wanted a shirt you could get a cast made of your body and layer the cellulose around it," he said.

Cass, a scientific technician at the University of Western Australia in Perth, was inspired to make the dress while working in a vineyard many years ago. It was not until later, when he gained funding from an arts group, that he was able to begin working on his masterpiece. "We just took winemaking to the next step," he said.

Oddly
ENOUGH

Jaws takes a backseat

To all you calamari lovers out there: How would you like a piece the size of a tractor tire?

A single ring of calamari from the colossal squid recently caught off the coast of New Zealand would be about that size.

The 992 pound, 30-foot squid was caught by a local fisherman, reported *The New York Times*.

The crew successfully captured and brought the squid aboard the ship, where it was frozen in order to preserve the body until the ship arrived back to New Zealand.

The colossal squid may be the most massive ever found.

Scientific examination will begin on the body in order to determine an array of valuable information about the species of colossal squid.

—KIM KRUPA '07

'Taking it like a man' might be a valuable trait

Study finds tough mentality may be linked to quick recovery—but is it?

BY JIM HANRAHAN '09
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

The traits that cause men to respond to inquiries of their feelings with a stony silence or "walk off" every minor injury may prove beneficial.

A recent study published in the *Journal of Psychology of Men and Masculinity* finds that these attitudes in men may not impede good health as scientists once thought. Rather, the mentality of "taking it like a man" may actually speed up recovery in males from a traumatic injury.

The study, focusing on brain and neurological traumas, states that brain related traumas trump the prevalence of cancer in U.S. hospitals. The number of brain traumas is expected to rise as the war in Iraq continues. The study also mentions that men account for three-quarters of such injuries.

Some male students believe that they are capable of handling injury themselves and try to avoid outside help. On the issue of physical pains, Freddie Akrouche '08 said, "I'm obviously not going to cry about it. I feel that if I can do without any sort of

medical assistance I'd prefer to go without it." When asked about injuries that may require psychological help, he said, "I probably wouldn't want to go see someone about the injury; they would try and extrapolate issues that could make things worse."

While the mentality has existed that men don't care for their personal health as much as women, this study, according to its lead author Glenn Good of the University of Missouri, Columbia, finds that "what we're seeing here is that the same ideas that led to their injuries may actually encourage their recovery."

The study included a questionnaire that measured how submissive a man is to societal norms of masculinity. These questions covered topics such as physical strength, sexual performance, independence, and level of success in the business world.

The men also had to evaluate their adherence to gender roles by saying whether they agreed or disagreed with statements such as, "I have to be more successful than others," "I have difficulty telling others I care about them," and, "My needs for work or study keep me from my

family or leisure more than I would like."

The study showed that men who focus on their careers, power, success, and competition intermingle better with their community.

These participants were tracked for one year after their hospitalization from a brain related injury and were found to have an increased recovery rate.

Scientists believe that an "inner narrative" may be the cause of this rapid recovery. To better explain this point, they related it to an analogy of a scrawny boy who might think to himself, "Yeah there are tough challenges, but nothing will stop me from reaching my goal."

While there are benefits to the "take it like a man" approach, some results found that this attitude may have negative effects. The men who have an attitude that consists of believing in self-reliance, holding in emotions, and having power over women, may not believe in seeking psychological help.

This mindset may be impeding any steady recovery that the men hope to obtain, according to the study. The study also found that those who believed in male

dominance were less satisfied with their lives.

This resistance to psychological help is a primary concern of Good, who believes that men should seek this beneficial therapy. "The immediate message here is to encourage psychotherapy along with traditional methods of healing," Good said.

"An injury is an obstacle, and all obstacles are different, which means they must be dealt with different methods," said Robinson Warner '08. Warner has dealt with the consistent, discouraging pain of a slipped disc for a little over a year now.

When he finally sought medical attention, he said he found it disheartening "as a man who considers himself somewhat tough and durable to admit that [he] could not heal [him]self."

Relating his experience to that of the stereotypical male and his reluctance to ask for directions, Warner said that although there is residual pain, he had a change in heart.

"I can ultimately fight through because I stopped and asked for directions," he said.

United States wrestles with Palestinian aid issues

BY AMANDA SILK '08
WORLD STAFF

While United States diplomatic relations in the middle east have met with lackluster success in recent years, United States-Palestine relations have proved particularly problematic recently.

On Saturday March 17, Palestinian lawmakers announced their ratification of a "unity government," in part to appease international concerns. While the government is still dominated by the controversial Hamas party, the Fatah and other political parties are represented.

Hamas—a radical Sunni Muslim movement that refuses to recognize Israel and denounce violence—has been defined by Israel, the United States, and the European Union as a terrorist organization.

When Hamas won control of the Palestinian government in elections last year, the United States suspended direct aid to the Palestinian authority, and many European and Arab states followed suit.

Palestine has the economy of a third-world country and is therefore heavily

dependent on aid.

The main goal of putting financial pressure on Palestine, therefore, was to destabilize the Hamas government so it would fail. The failure of the Hamas would then open the door to new elections in Palestine.

"We are not going to change our policy of dealing with foreign terrorist organizations, of which Hamas is one."

Micaela Schweitzer-Bluhm
U.S. consulate spokeswoman,
Jerusalem

The worldwide reactions to this have been varied. Unsurprisingly, Israel quickly declared that it will continue to not work with the Palestinian government or its members and will unequivocally continue the boycott.

However, European governments are

not maintaining such a hard line approach. According to *The New York Times*, France has invited the new Foreign Minister, Ziad Abu Amr, to Paris. Meanwhile, officials of the British government are considering dealing with some moderate ministers of the Palestinian government, including Amr and the Finance Minister, Salam Fayyad. Norway has announced that it will recognize the new government.

However, recent statements have shown that the unity government has allowed openings for communication and perhaps a resumption of aid.

Micaela Schweitzer-Bluhm, the spokeswoman for the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem, told *The New York Times*, "We are not going to change our policy of dealing with foreign terrorist organizations, of which Hamas is one. We won't rule out contact with certain individuals with whom we have had contact before. We will evaluate the situation as we go along."

Fayyad told *The New York Times* he is hopeful that the new government will halt the embargo. "It's a program of national consensus that we've managed to come up

with, and I hope it's adequate to enable us to end this situation," he said.

The international situation is further complicated by the role of the Iranian government in Palestine. When the United States led the international boycott on Palestine last year, Iran stepped in and pledged monetary aid to Palestine. This caused concern for Western and Arab states, as Iran has been gaining regional influence. Palestine and Iran are united by their strategic interests. That relationship, however, is weak because Iran and Hamas are ideologically very distinct and therefore have conflicting interests. The resumption of aid from the West and Arab states may help to break the Hamas-Iranian tie.

The United States is in a precarious position, as the government does not want to alienate Israel by accepting the unity government and resuming aid. The government, however, does want to increase its influence in Palestine, which is largely done monetarily, in order to decrease Iran's influence.

Family life in R.I. does not make the cut

BY JACKIE KRAMER '10
COMMENTARY STAFF

As I routinely opened *The Providence Journal* and read the front page story, I was angered. It was Feb. 1, and Gov.

POLITICS

Donald Carcieri had just announced his budget proposal for the state of Rhode Island the afternoon before.

The lead story was the write-up of the governor's proposed budget. Outraged by his announcement, I called my mom to say, "Can you believe this?!"

Carcieri's budget proposal brings a three percent increase in funding to local school districts. With no major tax increase on the majority population, it would raise \$3.2 billion in state revenues in the wake of the \$360 million deficit. So why the dissatisfaction, you ask? Well the question is: At what cost would these benefits come? The governor's plan wouldn't tax most Rhode Islanders; the individuals getting hit with higher taxes are those who probably cannot afford it: Entrepreneurs and small business owners such as manicurists.

Many people in Rhode Island rely on "Rite Care," the state's subsidized health care program, for the medical assistance they need. According to the Rite Care/Rite Share Web site, as of July 31, 2006, 117,199 Rhode Islanders relied on this health coverage. Carcieri's proposal would remove more than 5,500 individuals from the program, while once again not addressing the issue of changing the income eligibility for the organization.

Perhaps the most controversial cut put forth in the governor's budget is the change in eligibility for the state subsidized child care system. Carcieri wants to limit the childcare availability to those making 150 percent of the federal poverty level. Currently the limit is 225 percent. In practical terms, this means that more than 3,800 children whose parents depend on the subsidized care would go with have no health care or medical assistance. Similarly, the cuts would not only be detrimental to subsidized families, but would filter through to non-subsidized families and the community at large.

An article in the March 14 issue of *The Providence Journal* citing that a group of childcare providers objected the proposal, said the reduction "would force them to reduce the amount of programming they offer, lay off experienced staff, or shut down entirely, reducing the availability of 'affordable, quality programs for all families—not just those directly affected.'" Non-subsidized families who send their children to the affected daycare centers are also touched by possible transportation and staff cuts.

According to the same March 14 article, a new coalition of 39 childcare and community-based groups called Care for Kids was formed in response to the proposal in an effort to oppose the budget reduction. They argue for child and community welfare, saying, "studies from the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education have found that on school days, the hours between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. are the peak hours for juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, and sex," and that the cuts would force childcare providers to decrease services or shut down completely and "that will leave thousands of children and youth with no safe place to go and without adult supervision."

As I read on that morning of Feb. 1st, Carcieri elaborated by saying, "Our job as

BUDGET/Page 15

What about young Ivan?

Education is key to solving poverty in America



BY SHANNON OBEY '08
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

CULTURE

Rather than spend my spring break in Cancun or Acapulco like some of my other PC classmates to Camden, N.J. with seven other Providence College students, from all different class years to build houses through Habitat for Humanity. I participated in Habitat last spring break in North Carolina and loved every minute of it, so I was feeling good about this spring break when I hopped into the van at 10:00 a.m.

I had never experienced poverty in the United States before, with the exception of the occasional homeless person or roadside "father of two, in need of work," so I was shocked when we got to Camden and saw small houses, packed closely together, and crumbling to the ground. There were more houses vacant than occupied, and there were houses missing from lots like a 6-year-old's missing teeth. The number of drug dealers on street corners wasn't missing, however. In fact, I saw a total of 10 drug deals in my stay in Camden. We were intentionally not taken into the worst parts of the city, and we were told not to drive around at night because it was too dangerous.

After seeing where we would be working, I felt even better about being in Camden, even if we were just touching up someone's house. They were the small details, like painting a room pink for a little girl and caulking everything in sight, that would make these houses into homes for people when we were finished. We even got to meet and work with the homeowners who would be moving into the two houses we were working on, which made the experience much more meaningful.

But then, the woman running the site



SHANNON OBEY '08/The Cowl

Providence College students approach the Metro Camden Habitat for Humanity work site. Habitat has transformed Sixth Street from a line-up of rundown buildings into a street of homes.

who was in charge of the volunteers for Habitat in Camden, showed us an ABC Diane Sawyer special "Waiting on the World to Change" on Camden children, following around a few children and finding out what their daily lives are like. One little 5-year-old boy, Ivan, lives with his mother and younger brother and often goes hungry. His mother is illiterate and unable to find a job, although she sees someone everyday who is trying to help. She is unable to leave her children with her mother because her mother is addicted to crack. Ivan and his family often get help from their pastor but soon get evicted from places where they are staying because they are unable to afford the rent.

Even with all this going on, Ivan was still the most optimistic and ambitious child I had ever seen (he is an aspiring kindergartner now), and it made me so sad that there are children who are actually living like this, sleeping on a chair with their mother and siblings for months until they get evicted again, and not complaining, while other children throw temper tantrums if Santa doesn't bring them the new PlayStation2 or all seven Harry Potter books. Seeing this put everything in perspective, and I was glad we were in Camden helping the Ivans in the world—until I found out that we weren't.

POVERTY/Page 15

Mourning the loss of a PC alum

BY ROY PETER CLARK '70
GUEST COMMENTARY

As an afterthought, I read the death notices at the end of the Providence College alumni magazine and was shocked to see the name of an old friend: James F. Slevin '67. Jim died on March 1, 2006, after two years of struggling with a rare form of cancer. Doctors discovered a tumor near his heart.

Jim's friends and colleagues at Georgetown University remembered him as an energetic English literature scholar and writing teacher, a man whose influence on Georgetown extended well beyond the English department.

In high school and college, Jim was a senior while I was freshman. I knew him at Chaminade High School, but only from afar. He was a school leader, especially on the academic side of a highly competitive all-boy's Catholic school. By the time I arrived at PC in 1966 (in those days, those initials meant Providence College, not personal computer or political correctness), Jim had established himself as the leading light of the school's elite Arts Honors program.

It was not our alma maters that brought us together, but the luck of the draw. As a senior rector, he lived in the room next to mine, a dorm for freshmen scholarship students called Guzman Hall. As a result of that "ironic juxtaposition"—as I came to think of it—no person, other than a pair of teachers, had as much influence on me

as a young scholar.

Even though our paths had not crossed for several years, Jim's passing leaves an empty space in my spirit. It has led me to wonder whether such Platonic—perhaps in this case Socratic or even Aristotelian—relationships exist between college seniors and the new kids on campus. I can testify that I had no such relationship with a freshman when I became an upperclassman. An informal survey (about three phone calls) suggests such relationships, outside of those that develop on athletic teams, are rare.

If so, that's a shame.

No one essay can capture the complexities of a 30-year friendship that is both personal and academic, but I can peer into some dusty corners and see the shape of something memorable and informative.

It begins with language, or perhaps it would be more accurate to describe it as lingo. It was clear to me as a freshman that I was not yet a member of the college language club. Older students and teachers used words like "epistemology" and "eschatology." I didn't know piss from epistemology, or scat from eschatology. But I wanted to know, and Jim Slevin became my translator. I could ask him any question, without fear of ridicule. He would not make fun of me even when I mispronounced Karl Jung with the same "J" sound as "junk." A gentle correction set me straight.

Jim introduced me to the cast of characters. He exclaimed that one philosophy teacher was good-hearted, but wacky, a condition brought about by submarine bat-

tles in World War II. He helped me understand that Rene Fortin was a brilliant scholar and teacher, but that he could not talk about ambivalence in poetry without moving his hand back and forth as if he were trying a sticky doorknob.

Because of Jim's success, he blazed a trail that an ambitious student like me could follow. He was an English major, and so was I. He starred in the Arts Honors program, and so did I. He spent a summer studying with American students in Oxford, and so did I. He delivered the class oration at graduation, and one day, so would I. I watched him listen, worry, read, type, fret, laugh, and work out a literary puzzle in his head. And I took delight in stories about an older PC student, Terry Doody, now an English professor at Rice University, who helped show Jim the way.

I now wish I had showed someone else the way.

Our relationship extended beyond the serious concerns inspired by the works of Chaucer, Shakespeare, and Milton. The learning was leavened by play, by a shared interest in music (I played the piano and he played the drums), in sports, especially PC's great basketball teams of the 1960s, and in women.

After graduation, our paths diverged. He would get his Ph.D. at the University of Virginia and teach for a while at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania before joining the faculty at Georgetown. I would return to Long Island for graduate school at Stony

FRIENDSHIP LOST/Page 15

Tangents and Tirades

Spring Break and St. Patty's Day are over, which means exams, papers, and projects are dominating the stress scene. But stress is not good for you, so put off that paper and 500-page book, and listen to the important things we have to say!

Obscenities from a sixth-floor window. On St. Patrick's Day, I was leaving the Suites, heading to my friend's room for some corned beef and cabbage, when I heard a guy's voice yelling from a window. It was somewhat of a catcall, so after recognizing where it was coming from, I put my head back down and continued to walk. That's when I heard, "Oh sure, put your head down you stupid whore!" Now I ask you: What did I do to deserve being called that? Did he really expect me to stop in my tracks, respond, and/or come up to his room? Yes, I understand it was St. Patrick's Day, and he was probably intoxicated, but just for the record, calling a girl a whore isn't really the best way to win her affection.—**Shannon Obey '08**

One percent is here. You've seen the posters, and the One Percent campaign has finally arrived. The next month-and-a-half is filled with clothing drives, guest speakers, volunteering opportunities at local soup kitchens, benefit concerts and events, and coin drives. Transportation is provided for off-campus events. The opportunities are there. The question is: Are you willing? Are you willing to give one percent of your time, energy, and budget to help homelessness in Rhode Island? —**Betsy Rouleau '08**

Freezing with a chance of Solo cups later in the evening. Thanks go up to The Big Guy in the Sky for watching over Providence College this past Saturday. My Irish brethren and I had an entire weekend devoid of homework and responsibility and filled with green beer and Bailey's. We survived, but the appearance of our neighborhood did not. Pembroke Avenue looks like it snowed Solo cups and pizza boxes rather than the powdery white stuff. For the sake of our neighbors and my bike tires, if you live off campus, clean up the glass and bottle caps in front of your house.—**Colleen Flynn '07**

Decrease in dictator, increase in quality of life. The results of a British opinion poll, published last Sunday, indicate that most Iraqis believe that their lives have improved since the departure of Saddam Hussein. As reported by the *UM Times Online*, "when asked whether they preferred life under Saddam . . . or under Nouri al-Maliki, the prime minister, most [of the 5,000 plus Iraqis surveyed] replied that things were better for them today." In addition, the poll showed that only 27 percent of Iraqis consider Iraq to be engaged in a civil war compared to the 61 percent who do not. Finally, "by a majority of two to one, Iraqis believe military operations now under way will disarm all militias." The American troops surge, and the reduction in violence has Iraqis believing in the future of their country free from terror. Neither the mainstream media nor Congressional Democrats' desire to see America lose the war can change the positive outlook of the Iraqi people.—**Mark Scirocco '10**

The universal language of library. Have you ever noticed that despite what state you are in or what school you attend, it never fails: "Jenny WUZ" there? She was there, sitting at your library desk, perhaps right after that time "Tom loves girls" was written (which of course, "girls" is crossed out with the word "penis" inserted next to it . . . in a different colored ink). For a paper I am working on, I went to a few different libraries and was astounded to find out that no matter where you may be, or how "prestigious" the school supposedly is, there will always be a picture of a phallic symbol with someone else's writing next to it: "I like this." Let's have some respect for our libraries and either draw cute bunnies or nothing at all.—**Laura Bedrossian '07**

Go ninja, go ninja, go! With the new *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* movie coming out this Friday, I need to get something off my chest, now more than ever. Michelangelo has always been the best turtle, and Rafael has always stunk. Not only was Michelangelo the hilarious comic relief of the show, but he also somehow managed to make nunchucks look cool, inspired me to minor in ninja arts. Let's not forget that he was also the one who coined "COWABUNGA!"—a phrase that defines my generation in a nutshell. Rafael was always a buzz-kill who made it his business to be a jerk *all* of the time and for no reason at all. Seriously, who would ever use those ridiculous sayings in an actual street fight? I sure wouldn't. Every other turtle besides Rafael had something going for him; Leonardo had the best weapons, Donatello "does machines" according to the theme song, and Casey Jones was the most underrated character on that entire show. But the real point is that Rafael gets way too much respect, and if I ever met him on the street, I would knock him out with my awesome nunchucks. There, I said it.—**Aiden Redmond '08**

THE COWL

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BY ERIC FULFORD '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

TOO
HOT FOR
WORDS



"What? You said it was 'bar-huntin' season!"

Spreading the rubbers, spreading the love

BY ANDREW SPARKS '09
COMMENTARY STAFF

As is the case with much of the West, secularization is becoming more popular as people embrace an atheistic mindset and live their lives accordingly. This, unfortunately, is also the case in the United Kingdom, where after a recent and brief resurgence of religious professions, the public, yet again, seeks a barren, secularized lifestyle. This explains British Prime Minister Tony Blair's outspoken advocacy for condom distribution to help end the spread of AIDS in Africa.

Of course, it is common to hear people pushing the use of condoms to prevent the spread of AIDS in the horribly ravaged region in Africa. But this begs the question: What's so special about Blair's remarks? The problem lies with his subsequent comments, in which he claims, "The danger is if we have a sort of blanket ban from religious hierarchy saying it's wrong to do it, then you discourage people from doing it in circumstances where they need to protect their lives." This implied criticism of Catholic teaching is completely unfounded and rightfully drew criticism from the British Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, as reported by *The Catholic World Report*. When the cardinal spoke with Catholic bishops in Africa, they stated "that their dioceses are flooded with condoms . . . and it has meant more

promiscuity and more AIDS."

It seems, then, that Prime Minister Blair is determined to separate himself from the Catholic Church—which could be in fact a key ally in any humanitarian effort—as he claimed it is "silly" to believe that moralistic solutions will curb the epidemic in Africa. What Blair and many other people fail to realize, however, is that the Catholic Church alone puts more money and resources in relieving the suffering of people from all ailments than many wealthy governments, especially Western governments. For example, in the United States, the Catholic Church runs 17 AIDS clinics in San Francisco alone, as opposed to five clinics in the same area run by the gay community. Such profound spiritual and physical healing, based on moralistic solutions and offered by the Church, is occurring worldwide—without a single condom in sight.

The modern secularized public often chooses not to believe that humans can willfully abstain from sexual intercourse. Fortunately for victims of AIDS, the Church recognizes the dignity and ability of man and therefore correctly teaches abstinence as the best way to prevent AIDS. In fact, this fosters great success.

Hopefully the West will begin to listen to Church teachings as proclaimed by people like Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor. Only then will we see progress in healing our own ailments, especially those that corrupt us, both body and soul.

Cowl Letters Policy

The Cowl welcomes guest commentaries and letters to the editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, a phone number, and an e-mail address where he or she can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Anyone whose letter is given consideration for publication will be contacted by the Commentary editor to verify the author and confirm the authenticity of the piece.

Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length, and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles for space and clarity. If there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, however, please inform the editor-in-chief. Letters to the

editor are the opinions of the writer only and do not reflect the viewpoint of *The Cowl* staff.

Submissions must be delivered, mailed, or faxed to *The Cowl* office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Mail submissions to 549 River Avenue, Providence, R.I. 02918, Slavin Room G05; fax to 401-865-1202; submit online at www.thecowl.com; e-mail to thecowl@providence.edu; or hand deliver to *The Cowl* Office in Slavin G05. Call 401-856-2214 with any questions.

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In the interest of Veritas

BY KYLE DRENNEN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF



I am writing this to clear up some significant factual errors presented in the commentary articles of Colleen Flynn '07 and Kelly Jones '07 in the March 1 issue of *The Cowl* regarding the protests surrounding the banning of *The Vagina Monologues* on Feb. 21. Normally I would not take the time to rehash an issue that had been so debated and discussed already, but certain facts have to be made clear.

Both of these commentary articles accused the small group of College president Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P. supporters of actions for which they were not responsible. The first and more serious charge was that a member of our group grabbed and stomped on one of the balloons of the protestors in favor of the play's performance. These balloons were meant to represent the one in four women who will be raped in their lifetime. While someone did indeed pop one of these balloons near where our group was standing, that person was a random student passing by, not affiliated with our group in any way. I am greatly upset that people would automatically assume that the person responsible for this immature action

was a member of our group, without properly checking their facts.

Another false accusation that bothered me was that our group spent much of the protest loudly chanting various slogans at the other side. In reality, our group intentionally decided not to shout out slogans but rather simply prayed the rosary out loud a few times. For those who had a problem with our reciting of this prayer, we chose to recite it as a way of not only reaffirming our commitment to Catholic principles, but also as a means to revere and respect women.

I was disturbed by the way in which these false accusations were used to make it seem like our group does not respect women or care about issues of rape and domestic violence. The debate over *The Vagina Monologues* is about the method by which it is appropriate to raise awareness of these issues, not about which side cares and which side does not care about these issues. To intentionally attempt to further divide this campus with inaccurate statements does a disservice to the cause for which all of us care deeply about: Bringing an end to rape and domestic violence.

Poverty: Children in Camden suffer

continued from page 13

Habitat requires its homeowners to be able to pay the mortgage, and although it has what they call "sweat equity," eliminating the interest on the mortgage, they still have to have some sort of income to be considered. I was crushed. Although we were helping people that did indeed need help, what about the people who are homeless and have no jobs? How can we help the people who are too poor to get the help they need? What about the Ivans of the world?

Americans seem to focus more on the needs of other countries before focusing on the needs of the people in our own backyards. Many people deny poverty and homelessness are an issue and attribute it to a culture or way of life, claiming that homeless people are without a home because they have made poor choices that led to their current situation. The other, more liberal side of the argument is that the political and economic forces that drive our society are to blame. But what about Ivan? I find it hard to believe that a 5-year-old did anything to deserve this, unless you know of any other toddlers who sell drugs or dropped out of school; nor can they vote to change the system they live in. Children are innocent and did nothing to deserve poverty except be born. So what

can we do to help them?

After looking again at Ivan's situation, it seems that the problem was a lack of education for his provider. It does not appear that his mother can leave her children alone because of their ages. Yet, if she could go back to school and learn how to read, she could probably find a job and start supporting her family. If there were some way to make it easier for single parents or anyone in this situation to get the help and education they need without being burdened by day care costs, their situation would significantly improve.

What I propose, therefore, is a type of kids commune that is government-run and for all ages. If the child is too young for school, then they simply play there all day, receiving all three meals until mom and/or dad can come get him or her. If the child is in school, he or she can go to "kiddie commune" before school starts so mom/dad can get to work, and then get transported to school and back to the commune after school. No, this is not an ideal situation separating parent from child, but it ensures that the child gets fed, and that the parent has time to go make money for the child. It would also keep kids off the street and in school, not preventing, but attempting to prevent another generation from slipping through the cracks and reverting to drugs and crime to make a living.

Friendship Lost: Death brings a life lesson of the importance of friendship

continued from page 13

Brook and visit him, on occasion, at his parents' house. I showed up at the funeral home, the night of his mother's wake, a young woman who suffered the effects of depression and alcohol. Jim was happy to see me, eager to escape the gloom of the death liturgies. We found a bar and shared a pitcher of beer and, unless I'm conflating two events, descended into his basement and played some music.

It was the first time I felt that I had done something for him.

In the end, it was writing that would re-unite us. On several occasions, Jim helped me organize and teach writing seminars and conferences at the Poynter Institute, a school for journalists in St. Petersburg, Fla. Literature had been our Petri dish, but writing was the air we breathed. Each conversation with him introduced me to another important teacher or scholar in the field. "Do you know the work of Shirley Brice Heath?"

he would ask me. "You really should read her," he'd encourage me, "you really should."

He married and adopted a baby daughter from China, and they were his life, as my wife and three daughters were mine. Years would pass without a phone call or visit, though he did e-mail approval of a short essay I had written after 9/11 about journalism and propaganda. There's a special kind of relationship that does not require physical presence. The other has built a strong foundation and lives in that little house equidistant from your brain and your heart.

I wish all new students at Providence College, and all other colleges, the gift of a generous and magnanimous senior who will help show you the way.

Roy Peter Clark '70 is vice president and senior scholar at the Poynter Institute, a school for journalists in St. Petersburg, Florida. His latest book is *Writing Tools: 50 Essential Strategies for Every Writer*.

Letters to the Editor:

Removing the 'rose-colored glasses'

I'm glad junior Betsy Rouleau '08 has been disabused early of a "rose-colored glasses" view of the institutional Catholic Church. It is just too bad that sexual abuse and theft from parishioners are the cause of such a reality check. Unfortunately, for me, the sexual abuse issue was the last straw, and it took a good number of years

for me to see clearly, despite having gotten out of the Catholic system at a Quaker-founded college. I am glad that Providence College students are not encouraged to live in blindness to the truth.

—Donata Lewandowski Guerra,
Swarthmore College '74

Are the Suites becoming a pig sty?

Living in the Suites? Or in a barn? Suites Hall is basically a brand new building, yet the shiny novelty of the upscale dwelling is fading rather fast. Is it due to the normal wear and tear that every building endures in its lifetime?

Let me be the first to say that the "caching sparkle sparkle" of Suites Hall is being rubbed off by the spoiled brat college kids who inhabit it. Honestly, how hard is it to just pick up after yourself in the laundry room and not leave fabric softener sheets strewn about the floor? Why is it such a big deal to wipe off the laundry soap slime trails you leave on the washing machines? And does it really take that much effort to clean out the lint traps from the dryers when you take your \$70 pair of jeans out of them? Why is it necessary to spit and smear your nastiness in the elevators? You just came from outside, but I guess it's just too cold to be gross out there. And do your hands not have the control to hold whatever legally (of course, it is illegal to drink under 21) purchased alcoholic beverage you choose to consume that night? I guess not, since three quarters of it usually ends up making a sticky pool of goo on the floor for some poor unsus-

pecting victim to step in. And do you just not have the self control to not throw up in the elevator, let alone the self control to just not drink to that point? Clearly the \$150 fine posted EVERYWHERE the next morning says, "nope." And why would you feel so compelled as to spill your laundry detergent all over the stairs? Or vandalize the helpless and innocent vending machines? Or draw on the walls? Or break windows and doors? Come on, are you 3-years-old?

My point is that if you are old enough to be going to college, you're old enough to clean up after yourself. Your mommy or daddy isn't around to pick up after you anymore, so stop making the Hurley cleaning staff do it for you and take some responsibility for your actions.

Honestly, were you raised in a barn, or just too spoiled rotten to take care of yourselves and the place in which you pay to live? I swear, if I have to read about another fine on my way up to the seventh floor and I have a feeling that your idiotic acts were what caused it to be posted in the first place, I'm taking you down. Grow up. You're in college now. Start acting like it.

—Carolyn Creary '09

A much needed 'thank you'

The Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA) would like to take this opportunity to thank you. We'd like to thank you first and foremost for your continuing support of our organization but even more importantly for your support of the opportunities we have brought forward to the Providence College community to be conscientious and generous global citizens.

As you may recall, we have been running a book drive called Books for Africa during the past two semesters. Both have been very successful, but this past one has been such a major success that we thought you should know Providence College has been nationally recognized for the work we have done. Not only did we raise

more than 1,200 books—allowing funds to be raised to send over 8,000 books to Africa—we raised the MOST books in our category of schools (2,500-4,999 students) in all of North America. This is a tremendous feat. The organization we work with, Better World Books, is thoroughly impressed with our dedication and the fact that we collected the number of books we have in such a short history of running the book drive, and for having raised so much in a fall semester!

Again, thank you for all of your support, and please keep an eye out for more Books for Africa boxes at the end of this semester. Let's help to keep global literacy and educational opportunities growing!

—Polyana De Oliveira '07

Budget: New proposal cuts child care options for Rhode Island families

continued from page 13

a state is to create an environment where jobs are growing and opportunities are there and then let people take advantage of those things." This statement was followed by a remark by Karen Malcolm, the executive director of Ocean State Action. She asks, "How can we grow our economy if people can't even get to their jobs because they don't have reliable, good quality child care?" Care for Kids argues that "national research has shown that child care subsidies enable parents to work at a job, work more hours, sustain employment, and earn more." This research is put into more practical terms with the question, "Do you want to ask parents to decide between continuing to work or leaving their children home alone?"

The plans to reduce the eligibility for state-subsidized child care are extremely

ill-conceived. If the aim is to increase job retention and boost the state's economy in wake of a large deficit, this is not the means to do so. What got me so angry that morning was that I saw how poorly thought out the proposal was, while the sub-headline of the article was, "Facing \$360 million in deficits, state lawmakers may have little choice but to approve the governor's \$7 billion state budget proposal."

"Lawmakers do have a choice," I thought. They can choose to listen to the needs of the people in Rhode Island. They can choose to fight for the welfare of children and low-income families. They can take on social justice issues and fight for that justice.

I don't live in Rhode Island, yet this issue is important to me. I don't have children who need daycare and thankfully, I don't need medical assistance. But I know I'm going to write a letter and send it to the State House. What are you going to do?

Voice and vision

English professor Peter Johnson publishes first novel
What Happened to much acclaim

BY KRISTINA H. REARDON '08
ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It was a 16-year-old kid, not a literary agent or a colleague, who finally forced Dr. Peter Johnson, professor of English, to write his recently released first novel,

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

What Happened.

That kid is the narrator of the book, and his voice had been echoing through Johnson's head for years. Always wanting to write a novel, Johnson focused on short stories and poetry instead because he simply didn't have the time to devote to a novel. But one summer, things changed.

"One summer, [the novel's] 16-year-old narrator kept bugging me, as 16-year-olds often do," Johnson said. "I had the opening from the beginning, just a voice warning the reader about the way he was going to tell the story."

It's with that warning that Johnson begins the unnamed narrator's story: "I don't know what the truth is, or who needs to hear it, but I know what happened..."

He wrote the narrator's story in six weeks, but it would take another year of revising before Johnson was ready to put the novel into print. It was officially released in the beginning of March and has quickly gained acclaim. In April, Johnson will be honored by Rhode Island College's Association for the Study and Teaching of Adolescent Literature for *What Happened*, along with two other regional writers.

But Johnson is quick to note that it wasn't his goal to write a so-called young adult novel. He says he just wanted to tell a story.

"Novelists who deliberately try to write young adult fiction talk down to their readers," he said. "With *What Happened*, I just tried to write a good novel that happened to have a 16-year-old narrator."

"Why aren't *Jane Eyre* or *Candide* called young adult novels?" he asked.

"Any 13-year-old can read them."

And anyone—adolescent or otherwise—can relate to the existential crisis of that 16-year-old kid who wouldn't leave Johnson alone.

"He's asking, 'What is it all about?' And don't we all do that every day?" he said.

Divided into five sections, each part of the book begins with a quotation—from philosophers, theologians, and even *Winnie the Pooh* author A.A. Milne.

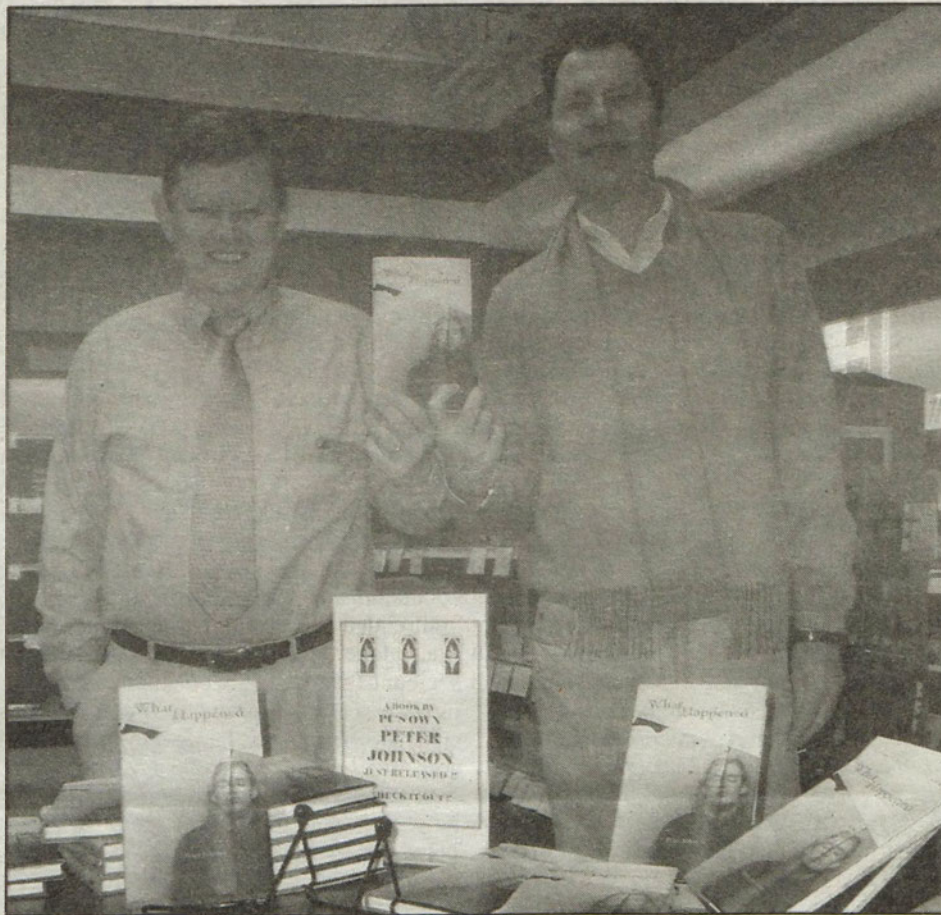
But it is the first quotation, from Friedrich Nietzsche, which sets the tone of the narrator's voice throughout the novel: "There are no facts, only interpretations." The quotation, paired with the narrator's first poignant lines, give the novel an impressionistic feel—something typical young adult novels don't have.

"Almost every bestseller in young adult literature is directed at young girls calling each other sluts or falling in love with vampires, or at young boys' experiences with dragons," Johnson said. "I'm sure some poorly-read reviewers will have trouble with the impressionistic way *What Happened* is written. Most people don't want to think; they want to be amused."

Provoking rather than amusing his readers is Johnson's focus, and the writing community has taken notice. The author of three books of poems and a short story collection in addition to the new novel, he has received writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rhode Island State Council for the Arts. His second book of poems received the 2001 James Laughlin Award from the Academy of American Poets, which honors the best second book published that year by an American poet.

Making the move from writing poetry to writing fiction was mostly a matter of adopting a new process, Johnson said.

"My poems, though driven somewhat by narrative, are notable for what's left out," he said. "In fiction, I can focus more on character and plot but rely on those



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Peter, what's happening?: Well, I'm standing here with Joe Rushworth (left), manager of the campus bookstore, next to a display of my new novel, *What Happened*.

close editing skills I learned from poetry. Today most fiction is terribly overwritten."

The biggest lesson Johnson tries to pass on to his creative writing students each semester to avoid such a pitfall as overwriting is simply to read more.

"Even if you have the head for writing, you have to learn the craft," he said. "Your best teachers are the authors you read. You can't write well if your head is filled with clichéd storylines from television, movies, or video games."

"[The problem is that] people want to be famous in three weeks," he said.

Johnson himself knows that it takes years, not mere weeks, to become a published author.

"It's been an intensive and exhausting process," Johnson admits. "There are no givens when you write a book. It can take a year or four years, and that's not counting all the years you were writing it in your head."



with
Peter Johnson

BY KRISTINA H. REARDON '08
ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

How reliable of a narrator is the unnamed 16-year-old narrator of *What Happened* supposed to be?

Even though he's sporadically taking prescription drugs while sometimes self-medicating with pot, I think he's a reliable narrator. We may periodically question his motives, but we are meant to trust him. He's basically a nice kid.

What Happened takes on a largely con-

versational tone from the very first pages, where the narrators says, "So listen: here's where my story begins, here's where my story ends." What kind of an effect do you think this conversational prose has on the tone? Was this conversational voice something you consciously tried to weave through the narrative? If so, to what effect?

I think the tone draws people in, but the narrative is more about rhythm. There's a kind of manic rush to his narrative, which makes the book hard to put down, or so I've been told. I didn't consciously try to create this. Once I nailed down his voice and rhythm in the opening, I just hung on for the ride.

The Great Chain of Being is something that's mentioned several times in the novel. What made this concept so important? In other words, what made you choose this over another concept, image, or idea?

I've always been obsessed with it. If you believe in some cosmic order, how can you explain why, in a just universe, a guy can jump off a building trying to kill himself

and land on another guy who gets killed instead of the jumper? There's a black humor quality to this kind of universe. There are no answers to these questions, but any kind of authentic belief seems pointless without considering them. My favorite novel is *Candide*.

The narrator repeats the words, "Believe. Believe." throughout the book, and you ultimately end the book with those words. What is the deeper significance, in your mind, of believing for the narrator?

I inserted and removed those last two words at least 10 times because as a writer I didn't think they were necessary, yet I ultimately decided my narrator had to say them. Life is messy, but the narrator came to realize that we have to help each other get through it.

Deep into the narrative, the narrator receives this piece of advice from a friend: "You keep looking for answers, dude, when it's all just movement, backwards and forwards." Taking into consideration the narrator's first words in the novel ("I don't know what the truth

is, or who needs to hear it, but I know what happened...") is the narrative meant to be a sort of catharsis for the narrator? Or is there something else he's trying to tell us by relating "what happened?"

Yes, for him, the narrative is definitely cathartic. We all feel better after telling our stories, but we also discover connections that can be disturbing, which is why people often crash after their first few experiences with psychotherapy. Telling one's story is also a stay against isolation, and the novel is very much about the importance of family and community. But there are no answers at the end. Life is messy and will remain so, but at least the narrator, with the help of his brother and aunt, has discovered a way to deal with it.

If there is one thing you want your readers to take away from this book, what would it be?

I don't write sermons. It's up to the readers to create meaning from the text. I just hope I didn't bore them.

Taste of the Town

with Joe McCormack '07
A&E Staff

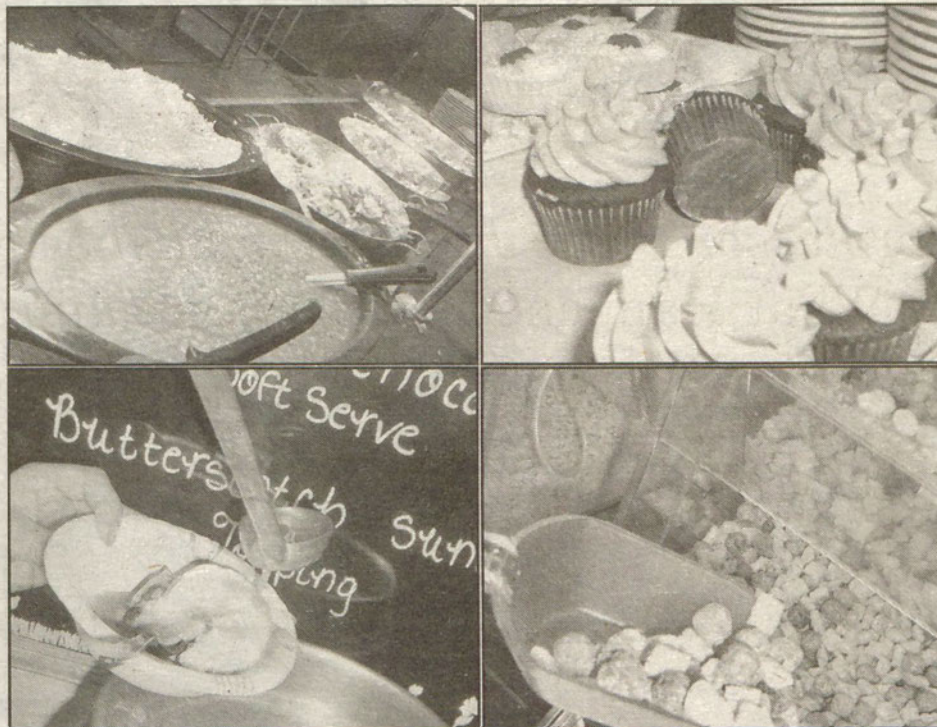
Raymond Cafeteria
549 River Ave
Providence, R.I. 02918
(401) 865-2452

This is for every senior who will never eat at Raymond Café again after May 21. This is for every senior who's really, really bummed about it.

Actually, I was supposed to review one of the really great sushi places on Wickenden Street, but snow and unforeseen events this weekend prevented me from making the journey. Instead, I ate at Ray, as I have 11-15 times a week, 35 weeks a year, for the last four years. Every time a hot meal. Every time as much as I could eat.

I have eaten approximately 700 turkey wraps from Raymond Café (maybe the one I ate tonight made it 701). Turkey, American, lettuce, tomato. Probably 400 of those were made by Sue (again, after tonight, maybe 401), another 200 by Mary Ann. About 20 of those were not excellent—more often than not because the wrap had gone stale. I think I can rest my case on the quality of the deli. Even if the meat isn't exactly Boar's Head, it gets the job done.

The secret to eating at Ray is knowing all the little secrets. If you are getting a hamburger or hot dog, toast the buns in the big toasters near the entrance. It takes 30 seconds, and they taste twice as good. Put vanilla soft serve ice cream in the hot chocolate or in between two cookies. Put strawberry jam from the toast section on



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

the white pizza. Experiment with mayonnaise. Take apples and peanut butter packets home with you so that you don't have to spend \$7.50 on a Domino's large later that night. Wait in line for the omelets—they're worth it. Never skip turkey, mashed potatoes, and stuffing. If all else fails, make a quesadilla out of a wrap, shredded cheese and lettuce: Microwave it and take advantage of the salsa and sour cream that's always out there. Never eat

the chicken unless it's fried.

A lot of people complain about Ray. I won't go the guilt angle—you should be happy with what you have, children in Afghanistan don't have access to all you can eat dining facilities with seven different stations. . . etc. Nah, you should be grateful first and foremost that you are receiving a \$30,000 education; the \$3,000 meal plan is just icing on the cake (speaking of icing, the Ray cakes are delicious, as

long as they're not coconut).

OK, I guess I'll go the guilt angle a little. You should also be grateful that there are people cooking your meals for you, cleaning your dishes, cleaning the tables after you sully them, mopping the floors after you, and serving you food. If you're a senior like me, unless you're living at home, you will not have such luxuries next year. In my case, even if I were living at home, I would not have such luxuries.

If you're a senior like me, you also remember the days when the burgers were more fat pellets than meat, when forks ran out at 5:10 p.m., and when, due to lack of options, Ray was not an option on weekend nights. I am thankful, this is no longer the case.

On days when I needed to eat fast because I had a paper to write (that was probably due three days prior), Ray was my savior. There is no preparation or clean-up time for me. On days when I needed something warm in my stomach or when I could've eaten a whole house, Ray was my savior. It's always warm, and I haven't eaten their cupboards dry yet. On days when I needed a smile from Janina (yes, I know I'm getting a little sentimental here), on days when I felt like sitting in a booth for two hours with a couple friends, and on days when I had no plans and looked to run into someone, where else would I go? Thank you.

GRADE: A-

Humor abounds in *Buffalo*

The student-directed Moon Over Buffalo played for the last time at 12:30 a.m. last Sunday, but its laughs kept the audience awake

BY ANNEMARIE GRANDSTRAND '09
A&E STAFF

At midnight on March 17, *the Moon Over Buffalo* was visible for the last time during its weekend-long run. Although it had been a long St. Patrick's Day, there was no sign of fatigue among the cast members. Their high-energy performance of Ken Ludwig's play turned the John Bowab Studio Theatre into a caged arena for warring inflated egos. I may have dragged my body into the Smith Center at an inconvenient time, but was delightfully pleased with what I found inside.

Directed by theatre major, Brett Epstein '09, *Moon Over Buffalo* is a slapstick comedy about traveling actors who are presented with the opportunity for their big break. Described as "Scranton without the charm," Buffalo, N.Y. seems to be a dead end until famous film director, Frank Capra, shows interest in George (Marc Francis '10) and Charlotte Hay's (Amy Hogan '08) show. However, careers that

once appeared quite put together seem to fall apart. George's affair with squeaky-voiced actress, Eileen (Lauren Walker '09), produced not just a slight rift in his marriage to Charlotte but also an illegitimate pregnancy with Eileen. Charlotte, originally played by Carol Burnett in 1995, eventually succumbed to her lustful agent, played by Alex Curran '10. The third love triangle involves their daughter, Roz (Talia Pinzari '10), who was leaving her clammy-handed new boyfriend, endearingly played by Peter Cunis '10, for an old, persistent flame, Paul (Stephen Orlando '10).

Each character was well-developed, with his or her own shtick to offer. For those who aren't the biggest readers and opt to let the *King Lear* jokes fly over their head, there was still a simpler humor. Cunis played the quickly-chucked boyfriend and utilized his profession as a meteorologist to slip in dorky yet precious jokes, such as, "It's all barometric pressure anyways."

Most of the play was consumed by Hollywood ambition and teenage rebellion. George and Charlotte attempted to salvage their marriage while their daughter rejected the theater life for the advertising business. Moving at record speed, the plot allowed little time to wallow in pity for one character alone. Each befuddled player had his or her own problem to resolve.

Just when the stage seemed to spiral into a maelstrom of hilarious arrogance, name-calling, and unearthed affairs, in shuffled the grandmother to the ruckus backstage.

Lauren Annicelli '09, who played the grandmother, tactfully balanced the play's constant flurry of dramatics with her sarcasm and wit. Annicelli's character played an integral element in the play's comedic



COURTESY OF THE THEATER, DANCE, AND FILM DEPARTMENT

formula. Toward the end of the second act, when furniture and people didn't seem to do anything but knock each other over, the physical comedy reached its peak. The clever innuendo-based jokes and pointed Shakespearean references kept the play humorous. Annicelli's wisecracks were never overdone and always delivered with excellent timing.

Hogan struck an impressive balance of nagging wife, forgiving lover; ambitious actress, and sharp-tongued daughter. If someone should attempt to chalk up her contribution to the play to its nimble writing, he or she must be reminded of how Carol Burnett was clearly channeled in Hogan's facial expressions alone. Opposite Hogan's character, Francis can be commended for his drunken performance in the second act. Although I'm sure half the audience might have already witnessed a few inebriated souls go from drunken stupor to overly dramatic tirade that day,

Francis should be congratulated for convincingly portraying that state without the research.

The energy of the plot remained at a high pace due to the quick-witted dialogue combined with a few slow characters. Entrances and exits came from every possible angle on the stage, allowing the viewers to feel as though they were sitting on the couch on stage with the grandmother nudging their elbows with amusing one-liners.

Although the play was scheduled quite late and actually started 28 minutes later, there wasn't an audience member who could deny the stage managing grandmother a laugh when she would playfully dust her bottle of Jim Bean. Complete with wide-ranging approaches to comedy from slapstick physical humor to clever word-play, *Moon Over Buffalo* deserved all the laughs it got.

GRADE: B+



Picks of the Week

By Sarah Vaz '07
World Editor



Movie

Two for the Road
Directed by Stanley Donen

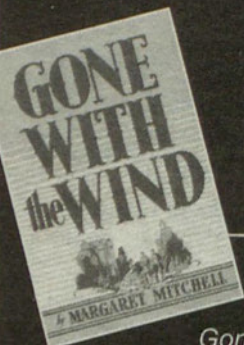
This is anything but your typical romantic comedy. A husband and wife recount their 10-year marriage through flashbacks of their travels in southern France. Told through a series of flashback vignettes, marriage on the rocks has never been so amusing to watch. Audrey Hepburn and Albert Finney have a captivating chemistry as Joanna and Mark Wallace, two unlikely lovebirds.

Music



The Bens EP
The Bens

The result of Ben Folds, Ben Lee, and Ben Kweller being in the same studio at the same time, *The Bens EP* isn't the best work of any of the three Bens, but you can't beat getting to listen to all three simultaneously. Silly and unpretentious, the EP is a feel-good listen that will remind anyone why the Bens, together or not, walk the line between sappy and laughable so well.



Book

Gone With the Wind
By Margaret Mitchell

If you've got time to read 1,000-plus pages, you won't soon regret it. An unusually compelling novel about circumstance and passion set in Atlanta during the Civil War, the story gets its power from the incredibly strong characterizations of even its minor characters. It's a peek not only into the early American South but also into early great American writing. The ending may not be the sweetest, but frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn!

When Irish feet go walking

BY CHRIS TOMPKINS '09
A&E STAFF

Here at Providence College we are all very proud of our St. Patrick's Day customs. From waking up bright and early to the *Boondock Saints* soundtrack to eating a hearty lunch consisting of the traditional corned beef and cabbage at Bradley's Café, we have, for the most part, established ourselves as having a surplus of Irish cheer. Perhaps you think we do it best here at PC; however, I suggest you make the pilgrimage up to South Boston for next year's St. Patty's Day parade and celebration.

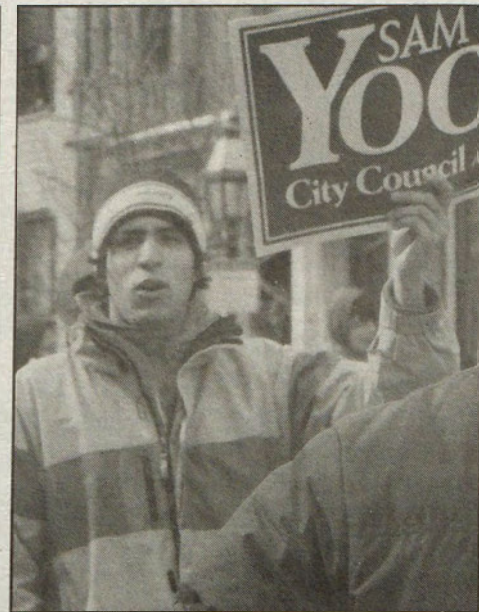
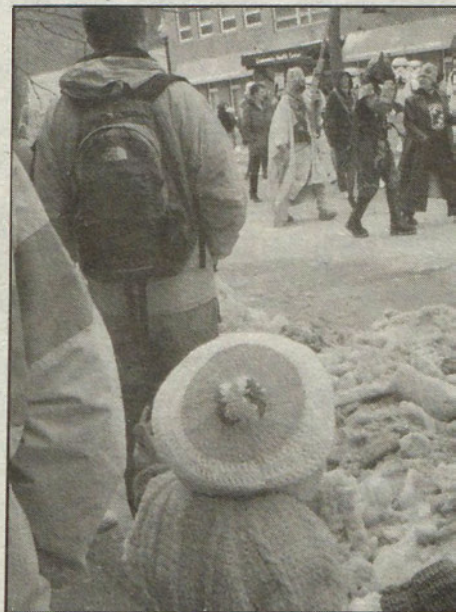
The festivities are located on Broadway in the heavily populated "Southie" neighborhood right on Dorchester Bay. It is a short yet cramped red line train ride from South Station. You may know the area as home to fictional film character Will Hunting, but it is also home to one of the biggest parties of the year. Ninety percent of the residents in the area are of Irish descent; is there a better place to have such an event? The parade has been a Boston tradition since 1901, and this year an estimated 600,000 people braved the cold, windy day to enjoy the spectacle.

As always, there was a plethora of music from around the world, including marching and bagpipe bands. The program also included step dancers, shriners, public servants in their best duds, prominent political figures, and a group of *Star Wars* fanatics showing their Irish cheer the only way they know how.

I was permitted to march in the parade this year in support of city councilman Sam Yoon, recently elected in November. Yoon is the first Asian American to serve in public office in Boston. The procession moved down Broadway to 4th and 5th Streets, around Thomas Park to Telegraph Street, eventually ending about four miles later at the Andrew Square train stop. We walked along a green corridor the whole way. Nowhere along the trek was there a sparse area of spectators. Folks lined the streets consistently everywhere and added a consistent amount of merriment and support for those walking.

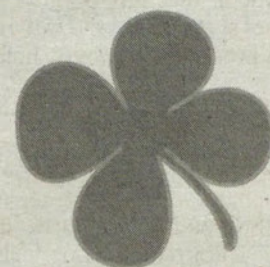
I am sure the vast amounts of alcohol being consumed had something to do with what seemed like an overabundance of happiness. What sober person would paint their eyebrows green? People seemed very generous with their drinks as well: Folks showered the crowd with jello shots from a third story window on 5th Street, and others passed out beverages to participants in the parade when they walked by as if they were running in a marathon.

The magnitude of this parade is nothing



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Top left: *Star Wars* geeks dressed as stormtroopers show St. Patty's Day spirit. Top right: A&E writer Chris Tompkins '09 marches in support of city councilman Sam Yoon. Above: A band of bagpipers continues to play despite the snow.



compared to that of New York City's Thanksgiving Day parade. The floats are minimal, and created privately by local organizations such as fire departments and radio stations (91.3's green man group was swell). The electric company even had some fellows waving on the back of a cherry picker. Most of the excitement is not the great quality of the parade itself but rather being there as part of the masses sing along with the cops and politicians.

All in all, the Southie parade was certainly the biggest party in the world. It had

all the characteristics of a party: Music, dancing, festive garb, abundant amounts of strong drink, and agitators who got a little too sauced. I suggest you check it out next year. It is at least worth experiencing, if only once.

The parade is always on a Sunday, so you can enjoy the festivities right here on campus for the holiday and then head up to Boston for the weekend. It will prove to be an exceptional way to usher in the spring season.

So you think you know arts and entertainment?

Take the A&E Quiz:

The Pink Floyd album *Dark Side of the Moon* supposedly synchronizes with which famous movie?

If you know the answer to this question, come apply to the A&E staff in Slavin G05.

The Cowl Portfolio

Stereotypes a la Cheerios

BY LINDSAY WENGLOSKI '10
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Last Saturday I woke up and made a life-shaking observation: I was hungry. More specifically, I was hungry, and I didn't really want to tromp to Ray Cafeteria to get a mini-muffin and chocolate milk. This reluctance to cross Huxley Avenue in search of edibles normally isn't a problem for me. My roommate and I keep our room jam-packed with breakfast goodies, snacks, and, of course, Ramen noodles. But ironically, the breakfast stash had run completely out just a day or so before—the croissants were gone, and I couldn't remember the last time I saw a Pop-Tart. Oh, but there *were* boxes of cereal stacked en masse in the corner. Hope springs eternal? Not so much.

We were out of milk. Bummer.

I did what any reasonable, famished, sleep-deprived person would do in that situation. I cracked open a dubious-looking box of Cheerios and started munching. Crunchy. Bland. Wholesome. Boring. But would you just look at all the vitamins you get from one serving!

It was in that dry-mouthed instant when I had a Cheerios epiphany. Now some naysayers might argue that Cheerios can't cause epiphanies, brief bouts of nirvana, or feelings of universal interconnectedness, or even make someone really, really happy for five minutes. But they're wrong. How do I know? Because I realized that, not only is there a ridiculous amount of different *kinds* of Cheerios available for consumption, but all those Cheerios flavors sort of remind me of different stereotypical people.

Take Honey Nut Cheerios, for example. Sweet, delicious, and still remarkably healthy, Honey Nut is almost unquestionably the favorite in the Cheerios family. Honey Nut is that girl or guy everyone loves—the sweetheart, the All-American kid. Who doesn't love honey and



GRAPHIC BY MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl

Cheerios? It's a perfect combination.

On to plain Cheerios. They're not as flashy as Team Cheerios (feel free to insert appropriate legendary sports team reference here), but they've been around forever. You can trust them to be there for you. They won't change. And Cheerios do not mind being mixed with other cereals! If they were to be magically transformed into a human being, I think that Cheerios-person would end up looking something like

that close friend of yours you couldn't live without. You know, the one you can always count on? Yeah, that one. The confidante. The stand-by. The rock. If you sense a bit of skepticism building up in your lower intestine at my reasoning, distract yourself by thinking how cool it would be if one of your friends was made entirely out of cereal.

Did you know that there are Fruity
CHEERIOS/Page 20

The art of conversation, with or without words

JENNIFER MCCAFFERTY '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

"He had this horrible frown on his face, like *we'd* done something to insult *him*. Like this. Look at me." A pause, and then: "You're not looking."

I held back the aggravated sigh that threatened to escape my lips. I looked up from my magazine article to see her face, seeing exactly the expression of the waiter who had been so surly to her and her cousin when they had been visiting New York last year. It was a good likeness. I hadn't been at the restaurant with her and her cousin, of course, but I had heard the story so many times that I knew precisely what the waiter looked like. I could probably pick out this particular waiter in the middle of Times Square on New Year's Eve based just on his scowl.

I gave a short laugh to humor her. Normally I could have found some excuse to leave—a meeting, a family get-together, a root canal, anything—but the knowledge that we were to be on this train for another four hours, and that of all the seats in all the cars, she had specifically chosen the one next to me, prevented me from doing so. In a way, I felt bad for her; clearly, she needed someone to listen to her. Occasionally when she would tell her incessant stories, one or two would slip in that possessed actual depth. She hadn't had a very easy life. I figured it was safer to listen to her talk when we were together if she needed to get something off her chest. But as she prattled on about how her

cousin had written such a nasty note to the waiter on the paper napkin splattered with salad dressing, I wondered if it was genuinely necessary for this particular story to be heard. Again.

As she explained the waiter's reaction to the napkin note, and as I nodded enthusiastically, I mused that she seemed to be able to deal with crises in her life but not with the simple, everyday problems that evidently plagued her. She could handle her parents' nasty divorce, her brother's death, and her friend's move to another country, but when it came to newspaper print residue on her hands, losing her grocery store rewards card, or bitter waiters, she developed life-long grudges. And she talked about the two realms of issues differently, too. Instead of rambling about every traumatic detail of the serious problems she had faced, like she was doing now in reference to her cousin's altercation with the waiter in the middle of the crowded restaurant, she simply let the facts speak for themselves. It struck me as rather curious, but appropriate.

She was wrapping up her story now. "So then my cousin *threw* the check down on the table and walked out. He just *left*! And I was standing there by myself, and everyone was staring at me, and the waiter had this look of complete disgust on his face. Like this. Look." She paused again.

"Are you looking?" she asked, sounding agitated.

"Yeah, I'm looking," I said. I tried to hide my annoyance at being repeatedly told to look at her. "I see you. What happened next?"

Once more, she let a moment pass before she answered. It occurred to me that this was strange for her. Finally, she spoke again.

"Are you really reading that?" she asked, gesturing at the magazine in my lap. I had barely turned the page during the hour of sitting there.

"No," I replied. "I'm just glancing at it, really." Another awkward silence. "But what happened with you and the waiter?" I asked, wondering when silences had become such a big part of her everyday vocabulary.

She shrugged. "Oh, you know, he apologized and the manager came out and said I didn't have to pay . . . but I think I've told you this story before, right?"

I returned her shrug and offered an evasive answer. "Oh, well, it's all right. It's still a good story."

"Oh, OK," she said. She looked out the window at the blurry landscape. I watched her, beginning to feel concerned. Under normal circumstances, she would be launching into her next story, but her focus seemed entirely wrapped up in the trees and buildings outside. Were these *not* normal circumstances?

"Hey," I said. "Is everything going all right with you? You don't seem quite yourself today."

She turned back to look at me, but didn't say anything right away. When she did, she said, "Well, not exactly. I don't really want to talk about it right now, though."

Yet another pause.

"But thanks for asking."

The Photograph

BY MEGAN BISHOP '07
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

It is nothing more than an ordinary photograph, taken on an ordinary day when the sky was clear and the mind without memories. My grandmother lies in the grass, feeling only the poke of each blade against her bare skin. Her eyes squint slightly, blocking the sun, and her mouth is wide, rimmed with red. She crosses her legs at the ankle and waits for the flash.

On the other side of the camera is a man who wants to marry her. She knows because her sister told her that the lump in his pocket is a ring and not spare change. It is the type of ring men buy when they think they know what they want out of life. But she thinks much harder than him on most occasions and knows forever is too long a time for them both. She hopes he will forget to ask.

“

When the camera finally flashes and a photograph is produced, she sees only white and yellow, bright colors that promise optimistic things like laughter and perfect health.

”

And though the photograph doesn't show it, he is nervous. She can tell because the camera doesn't seem to be working. To be polite, she stays on the grass, her smile fixed, listening to the group of men behind her play bocce and smoke skinny cigarettes. She wishes she were playing with them, wearing pants instead of a skirt, and breathing dark colored smoke into her chest, poisoning the moment if just for an instant. But instead she is frozen in the sunshine, moving neither left nor right, south nor west.

The man she won't marry fiddles with the camera until it flashes in his eyes, and he has to take two steps backward. His smile is crooked and anxious, but he begins to count down from five. Throwing her head back, she fixes her smile, hoping he will remember her this way, how she looked before he reached one. She does not think about her sisters at home, her father's approval, or the husband she will one day meet who isn't this man. Instead she stares straight ahead at the camera, thinking thoughts full of nothing at all.

When the camera finally flashes and a photograph is produced, she sees only white and yellow, bright colors that promise optimistic things like laughter and perfect health. It is not until he puts the camera onto the grass that her smile fades and she hears the voices behind her once again. My grandmother looks for the lump. Her mouth is dry, and she wants for nothing more than a cold glass of water and to escape the surrounding heat.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl



Four juniors studying abroad in Europe check in with us periodically throughout the semester, narrating life from the other side of the Atlantic

The profile of an international family

BY MANDEE ADAMS '08
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Anyone who knows me at Providence College can tell you that my favorite thing about PC is the people. I absolutely adore my friends, professors, and co-workers. I

STUDY ABROAD I will tell any prospective student or incoming freshman that they too will find it hard not to love everyone. Taking this into consideration, I find it amusing that while in France I have found myself in a similar situation.

When I ask the students here what they like most about the school, the majority of them respond that it is the people. I am so fortunate to be able to attend two schools with such an amazing population of students, staff, and professors. Yet, the students here are certainly different from the people in the Providence College community.

One obvious difference between the student bodies is that I now attend an international college, and thus have many different types of students surrounding me. As I sit in "Le Foyer," what can only be described as the McPhail's of Cannes, I see students from England, Peru, Argentina, Ecuador, Italy, the United States, and many other countries as well.

While most of my friends are Americans, some of my best friends here are from England and Switzerland. Not only am I learning French, and improving my skills in the language, but I am also learning about other cultures from around the world. In my French class, I have students from all over South America.

Since they, along with my professor, don't speak English, French is obviously the common language. We often discuss the differences between our cultures,



MANDEE ADAMS '08/The Cowl

which may not help my French grammar, but it is helping me become a better citizen of the world.

I speak French all the time. With so many international students, a large percentage of the people at the University

don't speak English at all. Going into town or having a meeting with a staff member at the College requires me to speak French—which fortunately has already shown results.

I still can't believe that I live in a foreign

country, speak a foreign language, and have new friends from all around the world. I find myself learning phrases in Swiss German on a daily basis, and when I ask my friends to translate them, they tell me what it means in French. I think in French, and have even started to dream in French. The book I am reading right now is called *Le Diable S'habille en Prada*, more commonly known as the French version of *The Devil Wears Prada*. Since when can I read a novel in a foreign language? I must have missed that step.

Adjusting to life in Cannes hasn't been too difficult, for which I am so thankful. Though I now live my life at a much slower pace than I ever knew possible, I am grateful for everything I have been able to experience.

I have met people whom I already know I will love forever, and together we have been able to share the European experience. After all, spending my afternoons on the beach, shopping in French markets, or cooking at a French Cuisine Academy wouldn't be nearly as fun without good friends.

In a way, life in Cannes is just the same as PC—having good friends around will always be the most important thing to me. I miss the people in Providence more than words could ever explain, but I am lucky enough to have a group of international students who I can now call my family. The diversity of each person adds something to our relationships with one another and the city that has welcomed us.

I could never have asked for a greater group of people who would teach me not only about French, but about life. I have been here just days short of one month, and I already dread the day that will arrive in June, when I have to leave the place that already feels like home to me.

How to hug a stranger

BY JANA SIMARD '08
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I slip into my favorite café after class and the smiling waitress already knows to make my *café con leche* complete with the *pinchito*, or snack of the day. I set my

STUDY ABROAD chunky bag on the barstool next to me and start to sip my café. The waitress smiles and asks how I am. From this simple phrase, a conversation begins: Stories about Spain, Florida, morals, friends, guys, and goals fill the space between us. After a while our conversation fades. She clears my dishes away and takes the order from an old man smoking a pipe.

I remember when I first arrived in Salamanca and we were merely two strangers in a café, just a waitress and a customer. But now we are friends. There are days when I simply step in to say hi to Elena. The dynamic of friendship has grown between my professors and me as well. The kind spirit each one of them possesses is seen through a simple: "¿Cómo estás Jana?" to a "No pasa nada," when I tell them I missed a class because I travelled an extra day. They are, of course, people whom I highly respect, but they have also become my friends. I mean, how many students have their professor's number in their cell phone and go out with them on weekends?

The next day, as I was walking to my Pilates class, a young man jumped out in front of me, huge smile on his face, long

arms spread wide and yelled, "Dame un abrazo!" (Give me a hug!) Though I was initially taken aback, and slightly skeptical of whom this man was and why he was so willing to hug me, I hugged him back. When in España, right? I stepped back, most likely with a complete look of confusion on my face as he handed me a paper which translated from the Spanish reads: "Why is it important to hug? The hug or touch is a unique sense, and I will therefore refer to it as a type of gift."

"For this, I recommend that we never deprive ourselves of the sacred gift of enjoying the hug/touch, feeling the things we love, enjoying the recognition of its forms. Personally, I recommend a minimum of four hugs daily, which will be a true giving of pleasant sensations, of positive information, so much for the body as for the mind." I smiled to myself in the sunshine as I passed the Fountain of Knowledge outside of my classroom and thought: *This is what the world needs*. It is so simple. I heard somewhere that it is fear that makes strangers out of people who should be friends. We must let down our barriers of race, religion, and differences of opinions. We could surprise ourselves. Imagine what our world would be like with more random acts of kindness.

Take time to get to know one another and give love—for this is all we have. So hug a stranger, smile at the waiter in your favorite café; he may become your friend, and if not, at least it will put a smile on your face.

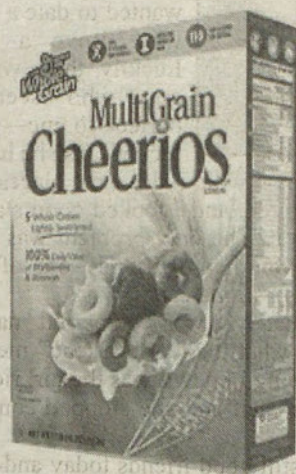
Cheerios: Who are you?

continued from page 19

Cheerios? Apparently, moms love them. That said, I believe I have the perfect category for Fruity Cheerios: Parental suck-ups. Parental suck-ups are the people who come over to your house and pull a Doctor Jekyll and Miss Manners—the ones that make your parents reconsider their stance on putting kids up for adoption. They are the visitors who land you in etiquette training for their façades of politeness in the presence of older people. They are the people your mom insists should "definitely stop by and visit this summer," and your father dubs "very respectful." They are Fruity Cheerios. Or Fruity Cheerios could just be crazy, fun-loving kids. That works just fine, too.

Apple Cheerios are insecure. They try just a little bit too hard to be Apple Jacks. Maybe someday they'll realize the truth in the cliché that "an original is always worth more than a copy" poster that my high school administration had propaganda-ish displayed everywhere and change the color of their cereal box to something less... green.

Multigrain Cheerios are the people who religiously (read: obsessively) shop at supermarkets like Trader Joe's and Whole Foods. They're the people who lobby for environmental reforms, who drive fuel-efficient cars with bossy bumper stickers ordering other motorists to "Free Tibet" and "Save the Bay." Clearly, Multigrain Cheerios are intelligent, concerned, and



www.cheerios.com

If you like MultiGrain Cheerios, you might also have a "Free Tibet" sticker on your car.

inspired people. And by intelligent, concerned, and inspired, I mean "awesome." Not that I'm biased or anything, of course!

I'm not even going to talk about Frosted Cheerios, Berry Burst Cheerios, or Yogurt Burst Cheerios. The Cheerios epiphany ended before I could reason out what types of people they would be. I was too distracted to try to delve further into the cereal mystery, so I let it be and finished the box of plain Cheerios. *Crunch crunch crunch*. Maybe I should have just gotten that muffin from Ray.

poetry corner

Winter Candy

BY NICOLE AMARAL '10
PORTFOLIO STAFF

A delicious confection
Of warm winter wonder,
Snow settling like sugar
Onto the tips of our hair,
Sweet frozen frosting
Crunching beneath our feet.
And we danced,
Down crystallized slopes,
Crashing into piles
Of saccharin oblivion.
Melted drips navigate
The contours of your face,
Settling like pools of syrup
In the lines of your smile.
The distant sun heats
Gently from within,
Solidifying sweet candy
Of the day gone by.

Drino's Pumpkin

BY ALEX DONNELLY '10
PORTFOLIO STAFF

let us retrace our boots backwards into the dust, a straight line in reverse
soar to the highest point that there is on our block, emergency meeting!
inside Drino's pumpkin there is candlelight for the kids to all enjoy
but it likes to distract with all sorts of neon lights and free animals

how do you think they know to play your favorite show right before your bedtime?
but some people just prefer to put their wallet on that shelf, beside the door.
you know, the one *60 Minutes* advised against going anywhere near?
we should accept the fact that strafing is just the best known way to survive.

I never really meant to get to hell
and now I really don't feel that well
I guess they say you're not always safe
but all I say, is hit the c-button to strafe!
BECAUSE!

Drino's pumpkin snaps an image of
every single trick-or-treater
that comes to his pretty house
on Halloween at 3 years old
and saves the info, then sells it to the folk that want it
now holding the key to the back of your house

*"Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape
from emotion; it is not the expression of personality, but an
escape from personality. But, of course, only those who
have personality and emotions know what it means to
want to escape from these things."*

—T. S. Eliot

Tiffany & Earl

*Making PC an emotionally stable
place, one letter at a time...*



Dear Confused,
There was this
one time when I was
a sophomore in high
school, and I really
wanted to date a guy
who drove a car.
Luckily, there was a
guy who seemed
perfect to me—per-
fect because he had a
car, and not only did it drive me places but
it was cute, red, and I looked good stand-
ing next to it. The only problem was that
he was driving his girlfriend—one of my
best friends—in the car.

Unfortunately, I was young and naïve,
and forgot what the word "friend" meant.
The next thing I knew I was the girl riding
in the front seat and she stopped coming
around.

We are still good friends today and that
boy and his red car are nothing but a shud-
der-filled memory. Regardless, she will
never let me forget the time I hooked up
with her boyfriend right after they had bro-
ken up. To this day, when his name comes
up in conversation, I leave the room and
fake an incessant need to be elsewhere.

While it did not *destroy* our friendship
completely, it did take a long time to
rebuild the trust. The question you must
ask yourself is: Is this worth it?

If you believe that this boy is someone
who will change your life, and without
whom you will cease to fully develop as a
person, then please go for it. But, if he's
just another fling then consider what is
most important: A boy or a friend?

Tiffany

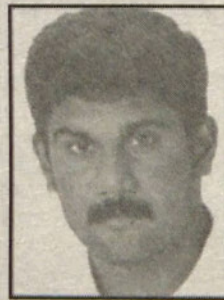
This Week...

Friend or foe?

Dear Tiffany & Earl,

I am extraordinarily confused. I really like this guy, and it seems as though
he likes me. The problem is that first semester he made out with one of my
friends. They didn't date or anything, but I just feel awkward pursuing him
knowing who he had previously made out with and the fact that I am friends
with her. Please give me guidance because I don't want to miss my opportu-
nity, and the end of the year is rapidly approaching.

—Confused



Dear Confused,
I believe in the
theory of creation.
As a result, I believe
that we are all
descendants of
Adam and Eve.
Bearing this in mind,
one must realize that
every person we
meet is technically
in some way related to us. Now thinking
about making out with your long-long-
long-long lost cousin twice removed from
your great grandmother's side is a much
more disturbing fact than this kid making
out with your friend a semester ago—that
is unless you are into inbreeding and
incest.

I have no particular problem with some
extraordinarily distant relative, but the rea-
son I brought this topic up is to explain
what I call the "Adam and Eve Complex."
The complex explains that if you really try,
you can trace back the person you are see-
ing to someone else—sort of like the Six
Degrees of Kevin Bacon. According to
this, everyone will have at one point or
another dated, or at the very least, liked
someone else. If you cannot track your
potential mate to anyone else then I would-
n't worry about him or her because it
means he or she is not worthy.

There is always going to be something
in a person's life that you won't like. If you
can't accept that, then enjoy your lonely
life. Ultimately, your friend won't care
and you shouldn't miss out on the opportu-
nity.

EARL

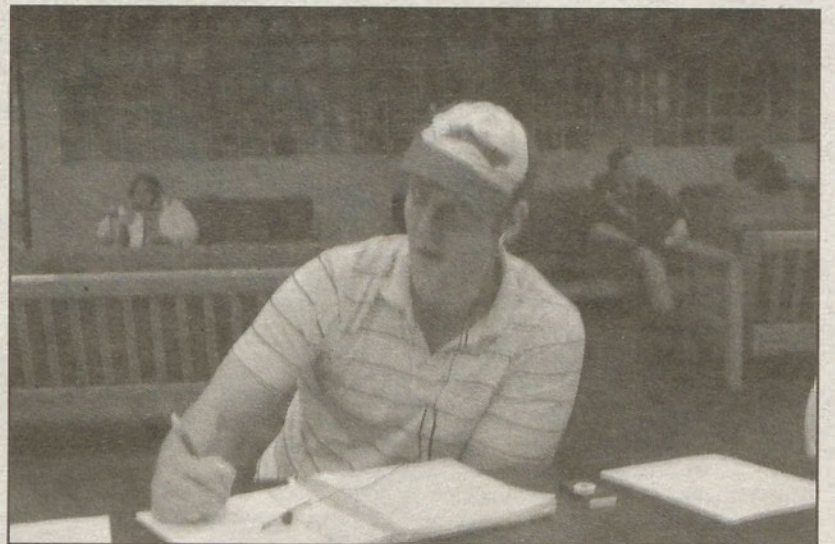
*Do you have a burning sensation? A burning sensation to
heed advice from us? Then send an e-mail. Please.*

Write to Tiffany and Earl!
AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com

If you could have any celebrity as a professor, who would it be and why?



"Halle Berry, because I could concentrate all day long on that fine . . ."
Armond Hodge '08



"Ryan Reynolds, because Van Wilder's my boy, and seven years of college isn't enough."
Marshall Fulton '07



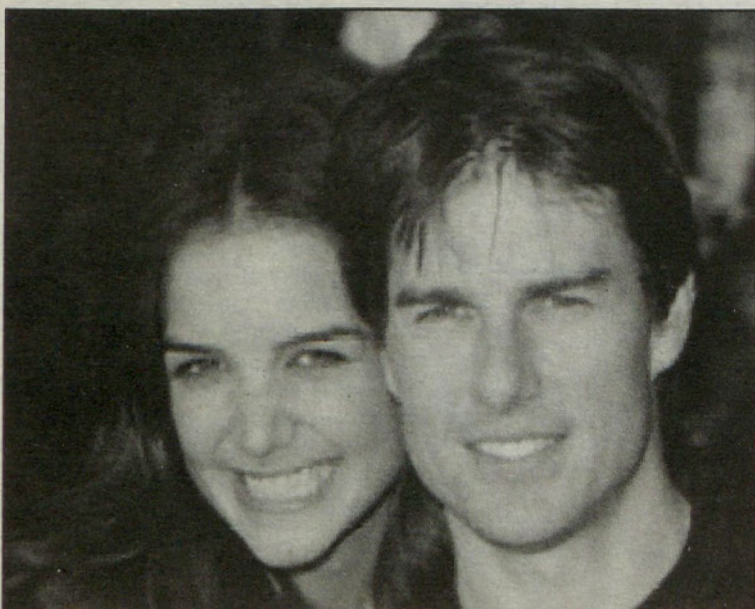
"Steve Carrell from *The Office* because he's really funny . . . that's what she said!"
Alina Swiadras '10, Anu Mehta '10, Belinda McGehee '10



"Jessica Alba because she could teach me a thing or two about anatomy!"
Jeff Weisser '08



"Lance Bass because he brought sexy back!"
Anne-Marie Yanosik '09, Justin Ruiss '09



news.pipex.com

"Tom Cruise because he's the only man allowed in my life."

Katie Holmes

Friars Scoreboard

Scores -- Standings -- Statistics -- Schedules -- Standouts

Standouts



Devin McBride
Men's Lacrosse
Junior—Marblehead, Mass.

McBride scored two of the Friars' four goals in a 5-4 loss to Canisius on Saturday, March 17. He now leads the team with eight goals in four games.



Jana Bugden
Women's Ice Hockey
Senior—Corner Brook, Newfoundland

Bugden made 34 saves in the Hockey East Championship game and was named the tournament MVP—the first time that a player on the losing team has won this honor.

Scores

Wednesday 3/14		
Men's Basketball at Bradley		L, 90-78 (OT)
Friday 3/16		
Softball at Delaware State		Cancelled
Softball at Monmouth, N.J.		Cancelled
Saturday 3/17		
Men's Lacrosse at Canisius		L, 5-4
Women's Tennis at Fairfield		Postponed
Softball at St. Francis, Pa.		Cancelled
Softball at Delaware		Cancelled
Sunday 3/18		
Softball at Delaware State		Cancelled
Softball at Monmouth, N.J.		Cancelled
Wednesday 3/21		
Softball vs. Holy Cross		Postponed
Softball vs. Holy Cross		Postponed

Schedules

Thursday 3/22		
Women's Soccer at Bryant University		7:00 p.m.
Saturday 3/24		
Softball vs. Syracuse		12:00 p.m.
Softball vs. Syracuse		2:00 p.m.
Men's Lacrosse at Mount St. Mary's		12:00 p.m.
Women's Tennis at Pittsburgh		3:00 p.m.
Sunday 3/25		
Softball vs. Pittsburgh		11:00 a.m.
Softball vs. Pittsburgh		1:00 p.m.
Women's Soccer at Boston University		5:00 p.m.
Tuesday 3/27		
Men's Lacrosse at Dartmouth		3:00 p.m.
Women's Tennis at Hartford		3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 3/28		
Softball at Quinnipiac		3:00 p.m.
Softball at Quinnipiac		5:00 p.m.

Standings

Men's MAAC Lacrosse Standings (3/17)

Team	MAAC			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Siena	1	0	0	2	2	0
Canisius	1	0	0	1	3	0
Manhattan	0	0	0	2	1	0
Mount St. Mary's	0	0	0	0	3	0
Marist	0	0	0	0	4	0
Wagner	0	0	0	0	5	0
St. Joseph's	0	0	0	0	6	0
VMI	0	1	0	1	4	0
Providence	0	1	0	0	4	0

Women's Softball Big East Standings

Team	Big East			Overall		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
DePaul	0	0	0	16	6	0
USF	0	0	0	26	14	0
Villanova	0	0	0	11	7	0
Providence	0	0	0	8	7	0
Louisville	0	0	0	13	12	0
Notre Dame	0	0	0	9	12	0
Pittsburgh	0	0	0	9	17	0
Rutgers	0	0	0	7	15	0
Syracuse	0	0	0	7	19	0
St. John's	0	0	0	3	15	0
Seton Hall	0	0	0	1	14	0

Lundberg: NHL dreams for former PC player

continued from back page

growing up, I always wanted to play Hockey East. Back then, it was the most dominant conference in college hockey and probably still is today. I knew a lot of guys from my junior team who had been recruited to go to Providence, guys like Jon DiSalvatore '03 and Peter Zingoni '04. Some really good players went [to PC], so I knew the program was headed in the right direction. It made it really easy to jump on board."

At the end of his first season at Providence (2001-02), Lundberg was drafted in the third round, 94th overall, by the NHL's Colorado Avalanche. He completed his four years as a Friar in 2004-05, graduating just as the NHL lockout was expiring. Unfortunately, Colorado did not offer him a contract, so according to the new collective bargaining agreement, he became a free agent. Lundberg headed to Anaheim Mighty Ducks' rookie camp for 2005-06, then NHL training camp, and then AHL training camp. After all was said and done, he found himself in the ECHL with Augusta and the Lynx. He stayed there until around the New Year, when he earned a brief two-game cup of coffee with the Syracuse Crunch of the AHL.

Lundberg played two more weeks in the ECHL with the Lynx before earning another AHL call up, this time to the Albany River Rats, the farm club for the NHL's New Jersey Devils. This was an opportunity to network with ex-Friar Lou Lamoriello '63—a Providence College grad and the general manager of the Devils—and Lou's brother Chris, also a PC alum, who was the general manager of Albany at the time. (Note: Because the Devils have since changed affiliates, Chris Lamoriello is now the general manager of the Lowell Devils, New Jersey's new AHL affiliate in 2006-07).

"That certainly may have helped me get my foot in the door," Lundberg said with a smile.

The Devils offered him a two-way contract for the rest of 2005-06, so Lundberg, playing a regular shift for Albany, finished the year under NHL contract. But this year, after attending Devils' camp and AHL camp in Lowell, he finds himself back with Augusta, waiting for another crack at the AHL or possibly even the NHL.

However, besides career goals, playing pro hockey also affords Lundberg certain luxuries he might not be afforded if he were working a 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. like

many of us.

"Cities down here are pretty cool. There's Charlotte, Columbia, Charleston, Pensacola, Fort Myers, Beaumont... and there's always at least one long road trip a year. Last year, it was Alaska. This year, it was a 10-day trip up north to Johnstown, Trenton, Dayton, Wheeling and more,"

he said. "I get to see a lot of cities. It's a pretty cool experience getting to see a lot of different places in the United States, because if I wasn't playing hockey I probably wouldn't get to do that."

But contrary to the stereotype of minor league life being a never-ending sleepless night on an un-air conditioned, soot spewing bus, Lundberg finds the travel itself—not just the destinations—enjoyable.

"Playing in Augusta [in the ECHL's South Division] is great for travel," he said. "Most of the teams we play are two-and-a-half or three hours away, except three teams. For longer drives, we have sleeper buses. Each guy has a bunk, so it's not too bad. And our apartments are pretty decent. I have a roommate. It's pretty nice."

In addition to travel, being exposed to both ECHL and AHL has enabled Lundberg to see for himself some of the

differences in the way the game is played at various levels. College was more strategic and conditioning-driven. Pro hockey for Lundberg has been skills-based and less-emphatic of conditioning.

"College practices generally have a lot more Xs and Os," Lundberg said. "Here we do more routine drills—flow drills, passing, shooting, skating—than we do conditioning. For most guys here, this is their livelihood, so they stay in top shape."

Plus we play more games, so conditioning usually takes care of itself. Only if we have a week with two or fewer games, then Coach will make sure the first practice or two that week includes some conditioning drills."

Lundberg also pointed out differences in the quality of play, and illustrated how four years in Hockey East can

help a player make the jump to pro hockey.

"The talent level in college is up to par as far as getting players prepared for the next level. The competition night in and night out is a big thing too. Most games in Hockey East are decided by one or two goals. There are no days off. Even in practice, it's such a high level of competitiveness. [In the pros], it's not necessarily faster, but it's more organized. Passes are cleaner, and it's a more controlled style of play."

Now, looking back on his time at PC,

Basically, I'm just going to keep doing what I'm doing—play with a competitive edge all the time, stay poised, try to stay confident, and just work as hard as I can without worrying about what might happen.

Eric Lundberg '05

Friars: Finish season 18-13

continued from back page

injuries that would simply not go away, it put that much more pressure on Hill to carry the team to victory.

"I think it's been well-documented that [sophomore] Geoff [McDermott] has been playing with a partially sprained meniscus," Welsh said. "He's playing like a warrior, though. He's trying to play through it, but you can see his offensive game is not what it was. And hopefully [sophomore] Sharaud [Curry's] finger will be healed enough where he can look for his offense."

Almost an afterthought to this is junior forward Charles Burch, who was out so long (since Jan. 17,) that the Friars may have finally gotten used to playing without him.

The injuries make for extenuating circumstances, certainly, but the fact remains

Lundberg most remembers his teammates—whom he still keeps track of—and the fans.

"The younger generation makes college hockey really exciting," he said. "At the pro level, there's no student section, unfortunately, which is a big reason why college hockey is such a fun environment to play in."

As for this year's hockey team, Lundberg added, "I think they definitely had a good team. They beat some really good teams, including BC and spanking UNH, and it seemed like they were in pretty much all of their games. Going into the season, I know they had high expectations, but Hockey East is such a competitive league."

Lundberg also expressed some measure of disappointment that he never had the opportunity to work with current hockey Head Coach Tim Army.

"I've heard nothing but great things about Tim Army, and I wish that I'd had the opportunity to play for him for at least one or two seasons. It would have been great," he said.

But as for the present, Lundberg has his sights on the constant goal of trying to improve his game and skill set.

"Basically, I'm just going to keep doing what I'm doing—play with a competitive edge all the time, stay poised, try to stay confident, and just work as hard as I can without worrying about what might happen. I just want to concentrate on playing my style of game and helping the team. If I get called up, I get called up, but all I can control is how I play. If I play well enough, I believe that everything else will take care of itself in the end."

that when push comes to shove, the Friars have not been able to get it done when it matters most. Welsh is now 8-21 in the month of March during his time at PC; and while the loss to Bradley University can be chalked up as a postseason learning experience for a young team, it does not change that the Friars were killed on the glass (47-37) by a Braves team that started only one player over 6'5".

As for Beilein's Mountaineers? They didn't quite make the NCAA Tournament either, but remain alive in the NIT after toppling North Carolina State on Tuesday, March 20. As the college hoops wise man himself said: All you can do is keep winning, and let the other things handle themselves.

If the Friars can take that lesson away from the 2006-07 season, then it will have been a successful season.

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McPhair's Line-Up

Thurs, 3/22 7pm Theology on Tap.
8:30pm Pointe Blank LIVE! 10:30pm
City Heroic LIVE! Full bar w/ ID at 7pm.

Fri, 3/23 Senior Night! Only 2
more left, don't miss out on the fun.
Full bar w/ ID at 4:30pm.



Sat, 3/24 8pm BMSA presents
The World on Tap. Try up to
a dozen different drinks!
10pm New Year's Day LIVE!
U2 Cover band. Full bar w/
ID at 8pm.



FRIARS RACE NCAAs PC rides four game streak

BY DAN OLLQUIST '10
SPORTS STAFF

The 2007 Men's and Women's NCAA Indoor Track Championships, held in Fayetteville, Ark., two weeks ago, played host to a number of Friar runners with some unfortunate luck.

TRACK Although both senior Martin Fagan and graduate student Aine Hoban competed well, a number of other runners who were invited to the meet were afflicted with the flu.

Three members of the men's distance medley team—junior Max Smith, sophomore Charlie Dewey, and sophomore Hayden McLaren—were all feeling under the weather on the day of the meet. On the first lap of the race, Smith was bumped and dropped the baton, disqualifying the Friars from the event.

Head Coach Ray Treacy was particularly upset about the unfortunate health ailments.

"It was a pity to lose the way we did," he said. "Had we been healthy, we would have had a great chance to win."

Although the majority of the Friar runners were dealing with health issues, those who avoided such problems made a lasting impression at the meet. In the women's 5,000 meters, Hoban placed fifth with a time of 15:53:42, while sophomore Katie DiCamillo followed close behind in 13th place with a time of 16:23:28.

Hoban and DiCamillo have been the anchors to what Treacy calls one of the "strongest deepest women's team in years." It is of no surprise to him that they were able to perform so well on the national level.

While the men's distance medley team had a tough go of it, it was not all frowns for them. Fagan finished the 3,000 meter race in sixth place with a time of 7:57:88.

The race may have played out much differently had Smith, who had the flu, been able to compete.

"Max beat the national champion earlier this year," said Treacy. "If he was out there today, he certainly would have had a shot at taking home first and also would have helped Martin run a better race."

Although the flu did put somewhat of a damper on the meet, the Friars were able to draw some positives as well. Last week, Hoban and Fagan were named All-Americans. This is the fourth All-American honor for Fagan, who was recognized in the 3,000 meters, while Hoban made her second team after dominating the 5,000 meters all season.

Overall, it has been a tremendous season for both the men's and women's indoor track teams. The men found themselves ranked as high as 17th in the country.

Treacy was also impressed with the progress made by the many underclassmen on each of the respective teams.

With outdoor spring track on the horizon, Treacy is not hanging his head over the team's ill-timed sickness at the NCAA's. Instead, he is extremely upbeat and confident that his team will continue to improve and perform well in the spring season.

"We can't dwell on the flu bug that we were bitten by at the NCAA's," Treacy said. "Sometimes that's just the way things go. Unlike other sports where there is only one season to prove yourself, track provides an opportunity three times a year to prove your worth."

"All of those runners that had to sit out at the nationals due to their health will have another shot this spring, and judging by their character and dedication to the sport, I fully expect them to compete at the national level again."

The track team will head out to California to train in warmer weather before returning to the East coast for the Penn relays. The Penn relays should serve as a good indicator of where the spring season is headed, and Under Treacy's guidance, one can expect the Friar runners to have another successful season.

BY ERIN REDIHAN '08
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

If you are looking for a way to describe the Providence College Softball Team's season since spring break, soggy might be the most appropriate word.

SOFTBALL After opening the 2007 campaign by playing 15 games in nine days, the team's busy schedule has ground to a halt. Eight straight games, including the home opener doubleheader with the Holy Cross Crusaders, originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 21 have been either postponed or cancelled due to the weather.

"We're just trying to get outside as much as we can so the outfielders can see some flyballs," said freshman pitcher Danielle Bertolette.

The players have continued to practice each day to prepare for its next contest: A doubleheader on Saturday, March 24, against Syracuse. With Wednesday's games against Holy Cross rescheduled for Thursday, April 19, the team's meeting with Syracuse effectively becomes the 2007 home opener.

"I'm personally excited," said senior captain Katie Ross. "They'll be tough competition. They're one of the top teams in the Big East and this is the perfect chance to show the rest of the Big East what we have."

The team hopes to both capitalize on the layoff it has had to improve its players and to pick up where it left off—with two wins in the Winthrop/Adidas Invitational on March 9.

Like many PC students, the members of the softball team headed south in search of warmer weather—and better playing conditions. Unlike the average college student, however, the team did not have much time to spend at the beach. The Friars played in two tournaments, finishing the week with an 8-7 record.

In the Winthrop/Adidas Tournament,

held March 8-11, the team played seven games. While Providence was defeated in its first three contests against Winthrop, Towson, and UNC Greensboro, the Friars finished strong. After beating Charleston Southern, Gardner-Webb, North Carolina A&T, and Akron, the team currently holds a four-game win streak, which it will look to build on against Syracuse.

"We've been learning a lot," said Head Coach Kerri Jacklets. "We have three or four freshmen on our infield. That's definitely had an impact for us. They have a lot of learning to do but they've been getting better every single game... We're still in the process of learning how to win."

So far this season, the team has compiled three shutouts, a testament to strong pitching from senior Sara Surosky—who was named to the Winthrop/Adidas All-Tournament Team—and freshman Danielle Bertolette.

The Friar offense has been growing more consistent as well. The team has racked up at least 10 runs three times already in 2007, most recently against North Carolina A&T on Sunday, March 11. The Friars needed an extra frame to beat the Aggies 13-12 in an exciting comeback victory.

As happened many times in 2006, the team found itself down early, 6-0 in this case, but an eight-run fifth and solid relief pitching from sophomores Jennifer Maccio and Alisha Levin were just enough to keep the Aggies at bay.

The Friars built off that momentum in their second game of the day, a close 1-0 shutout over Akron. Surosky hurled a complete game, allowing just four hits. The Friars' lone run came in the fourth when senior Caroline Santilli drove in senior Rachel Bartholomew with an infield hit.

Last weekend, the Friars were to travel to the Delaware State Classic, but rainy weather cancelled these games. Now the team can only hope the field will dry and the skies will stay clear long enough for it to take the field against Syracuse on Saturday.

This Week in Friar Athletics:

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL DOUBLE HEADER!

Saturday, March 24th:

PC vs. Syracuse
@ 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM

Sunday, March 25th:

PC vs. Pittsburgh
@ 11:00 PM and 1:00 PM

All games are played on Raymond Field



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Early struggles for Friars as MAAC play begins

BY GREG HARTWELL '07
SPORTS STAFF

After starting off its season with a tough 6-5 loss to Fairfield, the Providence College Men's Lacrosse Team went into the month of March looking for a win.

LACROSSE

Brown, Quinnipiac, and Canisius, however, had other plans.

On Friday, March 2, the Friars hosted the Quinnipiac Bobcats in an epic battle that ended with a 6-5 Quinnipiac win. The loss marked the start of a continuous downward spiral for the next two games, as PC fell to Brown 7-3, and Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) opponent Canisius 5-4 leaving the Friars 0-1 in the MAAC and 0-4 overall.

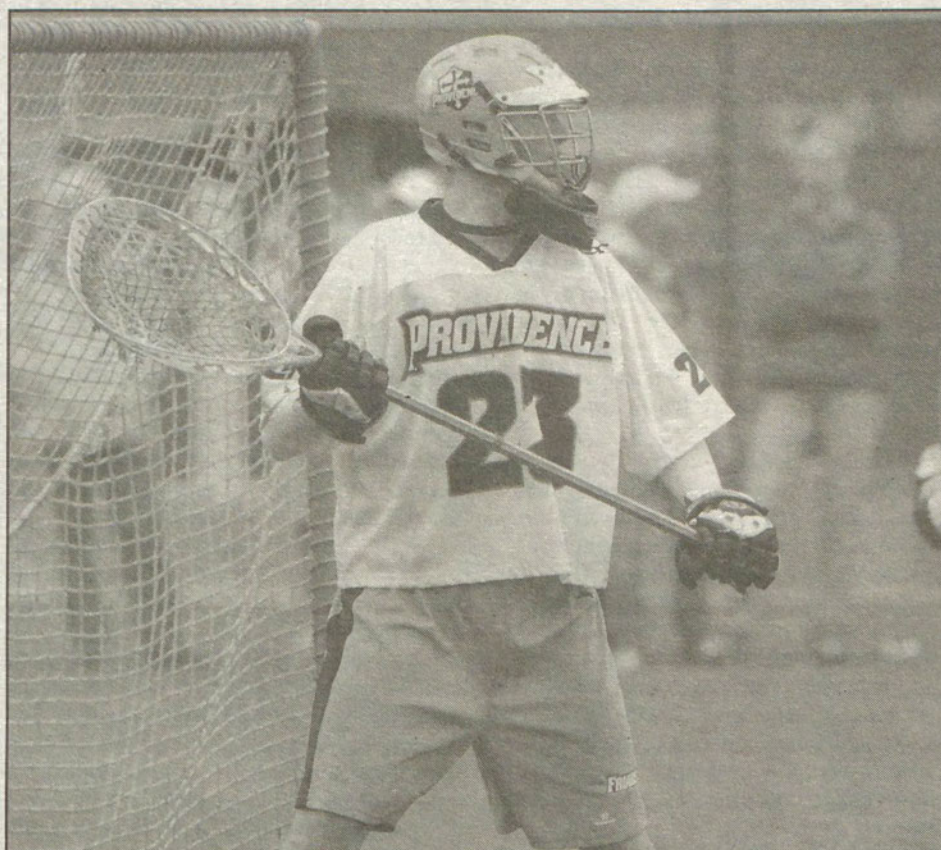
Following their season-opening loss to Fairfield, the Friars were determined to come out strong against Quinnipiac. Providence took the lead early in the first quarter off a goal from graduate student Michael Farley via a feed from freshman Garrett Kanter.

Quinnipiac retaliated with a goal before the end of the quarter and another early in the second to take the lead. After a PC goal, the Bobcats had three unanswered goals, and despite a strong Providence rally, the Friars were unable to close the gap.

Five different Friars were ultimately credited with goals in the PC effort. Farley contributed an assist for a team-high two points on the day. Unfortunately, the Friars followed up their first one goal loss with another to the Bobcats, also 6-5.

"We were able to reproduce for 60 minutes of play exactly what we practice," remarked Head Coach Chris Burdick. "What we reproduced was an exact replica of disengaged guys, who play with a lack of focus and as a result have the inability to produce winning results. This team does not value practice and that is an attitude which contributes to teams losing."

A week later, the Friars traveled across



COWL ARCHIVES

Senior goaltender Peter Littell and the Friars have endured a disappointing 0-4 start to the season, including a 5-4 loss to MAAC foe Canisius.

town to take on the Bears from Brown University. Coming off of two losses proved to be a feat for the Friars. The Bears came out in the first quarter and scored three unanswered goals, which was enough to account for the PC's goals for the game.

Junior Devin McBride got Providence on the board with his first of two unassisted goals off a man-up opportunity, but the Bears continued mauling the Friars, going up 5-1 in the third quarter.

Although McBride struck again, recording his second goal in the game, the Bears dominated the game until Farley made the last goal of the game off of a pass from junior Robert Lamontagne. The fourth

quarter was scoreless, and the Friars left with another loss—this time 7-3.

As spring break ended and droves of students returned to school, the Friars prepared for their next game versus Canisius, which they hoped would end their losing streak—and provide them with a win to start out their quest for another MAAC Championship.

"We got outplayed by both Brown as well as Quinnipiac," commented Burdick. "We were able to fix some things in practice before we faced off against Canisius, and I feel that we outplayed Canisius by a sizable margin. We played pretty well for 60 minutes but just couldn't put the ball in the hole."

Hosting the Golden Griffins on St. Patrick's Day, it seemed as though the luck of the Irish went against PC, as its comeback fell short by one goal.

"We beat Canisius in every statistical area, but it comes down to a matter of finishing in the game," remarked Farley. "I step onto the field and am ready to play and work on playing at game speed and anticipating the stresses of the game. We are working on those areas as a team as well as becoming a cohesive unit. We are getting there as time goes on, but it needs to happen sooner than later."

Senior Brendan Ryan notched an early goal for PC, giving the Friars a 1-0 lead at the 12:34 mark of the first quarter. Canisius evened the score with one minute remaining in the quarter, but the Friars regained the lead 2-1 after senior captain Jason Trout beat Canisius goaltender Angus Dineley at the 8:37 mark of the second quarter. Canisius tied up the score before the close of the half, 2-2.

In the third quarter, the Golden Griffins picked up where they left off and took the lead for the first time of the day. McBride scored a man-up goal at 7:44 of the third quarter to draw the Friars even once again, but Canisius would score back-to-back goals to close out the third with a 5-3 advantage.

The Friars drew closer in the fourth quarter when McBride struck for his second tally of the game, but they ultimately could not beat the Golden Griffin Goalie for the equalizer.

"We need to mature a bit," said Farley. "We expect more from top to bottom, from the upperclassmen all the way to the underclassmen. In order for us to turn our season around; we need to play up to our full potential and play at the level we know we are capable of. We need to play with more confidence and bring our swagger onto the field."

Providence, now 0-4 overall and 0-1 MAAC, will return to action this upcoming Saturday, March 24, as it travels to Emmitsburg, Md., to face-off against MAAC foe Mount St. Mary's at noon.



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Wildcats avenge earlier defeat, knock out Friars

BY RYAN HOLT '09
SPORTS STAFF

After going on a three-game win streak—including a thrilling 7-1 blowout of No. 3 UNH—to make the playoffs, the Men's Hockey Team made a quick exit

from the tournament when it concluded its 2006-07 campaign in the Hockey East Quarterfinals. The Friars lost 6-0, on March 8, and 4-0, on March 9, at the University of New Hampshire.

After a rough start, the Friars drastically improved down the stretch, becoming one of college hockey's hottest teams. Every night, they proved to be a tough match-up against many formidable opponents.

The Friars finished eighth in Hockey East, arguably the nation's toughest conference, where five of the 10 schools qualified for the NCAA Tournament, the most of any conference. They played one of the most difficult non-conference schedules in the country, including games against two No. 1 seeds in the tournament, Clarkson and Notre Dame.

The Friars defeated many of the nation's top teams including No. 1 seed New Hampshire, Hockey East Champion Boston College, and perennial power and NCAA qualifier, the University of Maine.

"It was an up and down year. We had a great team, high expectations, only losing three guys," said senior Co-Captain Tony Zancanaro.

The Friars struggled early, failing to win consecutive games until January. From that point, however, their game drastically improved. Most nights, even in losses it can be argued, they played better than their opponents.

"We were one of the best toward the end," said Zancanaro. "We could play with anybody. We out-shot, outplayed a lot of our opponents, no matter who they were."

Out-shooting and outplaying, yet coming up short was the story of the year. This team clearly left it all on the ice.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Colin McDonald and the Friars defeated UNH 7-1 on Feb. 24, but fell short in the Hockey East quarterfinals, losing back-to-back games against the Wildcats that brought PC's season to a close.

I think guys worked hard all year long," said Zancanaro. "Some nights we didn't have the whole lineup going. We had a lot of inconsistencies but it got consistent toward the end."

Often, the Friars would double their opponent's shot total, only to come up short regarding goals. Some nights there would be spectacular goal tending, others a bad bounce or two, others would be hitting the posts, and others would be just plain

bad luck. Wins against the Friars were some of the toughest attained in the Hockey East.

The regular season ended well for the Friars, as they won their last three heading into the Hockey East playoffs. It seemed as though they were finally clicking, but just ran out of time.

This year's team was one to be proud of. In the face of hard times and tough luck, this team kept going, kept striving for bet-

ter, and never gave up. They fought for every shot, every save, every check, and every goal. This 'never say die' attitude lasted until the final buzzer of the final game.

The team's positive outlook is largely attributed to team's leadership under Head Coach Tim Army, and Captains Zancanaro and Colin McDonald. The trio worked to foster a belief in hard work and persistence that will certainly be a fixture in the Army Era at PC.

For Zancanaro and McDonald, as well as the rest of the senior class, marked the end of their careers at PC. There have been many changes to the Hockey program during their four years in the program, particularly new seats in Schneider Arena, and two years ago, a new coach in Tim Army.

When he arrived in 2005, Army brought new life to the program. He revived the offense by playing a more aggressive style of Hockey. He brought the energy only an alumnus could bring.

Zancanaro spoke fondly of his former coach, Paul Pooley, now an assistant at Notre Dame. In his sophomore season, Pooley's final year at PC, Zancanaro was named assistant captain, something which he stills considers a great honor.

Of Coach Army he said, "He's just going to make the program better, he's a winner. He loves PC."

Though the win-loss record does not exactly indicate it, this was a successful season for Friar Hockey. The team improved in the face of adversity of injuries and tough losses. This program is building, and continues to get stronger. The Friars will be a force to be reckoned with in the Hockey East in the near future.

To conclude the year, Zancanaro, speaking for his teammates said, "Keep supporting the hockey team, they're great guys. Thanks for the support you've given us. You've made Schneider a tough place to visit."

Hockey: Fourth conference final appearance in five years

continued from back page

"It's sweet when you're the underdog," Head Coach Bob Deraney said. "It's sweet when people pick you to finish fourth in your division, and there you are playing in the championship game at the end of the year, being able to go out there and prove them wrong."

Senior goaltender Jana Bugden helped PC stay in the game early on, making four saves in the early minutes of the first stanza as UNH held a five on three power play advantage. She finished the first with 12 saves for the Friars.

Unfortunately, stingy goaltending by the Friars could not keep the Wildcats out of the net, as Kacey Bellamy scored on a wrap-around goal at the 3:55 mark. It came just as PC's second penalty expired and gave UNH a 1-0 advantage.

PC opened up the second stanza with plenty of scoring opportunities, but none

of them resulted in a goal until sophomore defenseman Erin Normore slipped the puck through the legs of the UNH goalie at the 6:42 mark to tie the game up at one a piece.

"That was a terrific play by a terrific player," said Deraney. "Erin has really established herself in the last quarter of the season as one of the dominate players in the Hockey East."

Three minutes later, UNH would score off of a turnover in the PC zone to go up 2-1 at the 9:48 mark.

In an effort to jumpstart the Friars' offense, Deraney pulled Bugden at the 17:34 mark. The move did not work to PC's advantage however, as UNH's Sam Faber scored an empty net goal to seal a 3-1 victory over the Friars.

Bugden finished the tournament with 67 saves over the two games, earning her Tournament MVP honors. It was the first time ever that a player not on the championship team was awarded such an honor.

"You can't win without great goaltending, and she has been great for us since the first day that she stepped on the ice," said Deraney. "Also, to see Jana win MVP was a vindication from three years ago; she deserved to win it then just as she deserved to win it now."

Pitted against BC in the opening round, it appeared the Eagles would have their way with the Friars, as they forced PC into committing the first three penalties of the game, starting with a hooking call on Normore.

After successfully killing the first three power plays of the game, the Friars' luck would finally run out as the Eagles scored during their fifth power play opportunity of the day, converting off of Maggie Taverna's slap shot at the 9:55 mark in the second period.

BC's scoring spurt would continue less than a minute-and-a-half later, when Thunstrom's shot bounced off the posts and into the back of the net, giving the Eagles what appeared to be a comfortable 2-0 lead.

The Friars though, would not back down. Just a minute-and-a-half later, PC would respond with a goal of their own, when Mari Pehkonen scored her 18th of the season to cut BC's lead in half.

With the Friars now holding the momentum, junior forward Jenna Keilch added the equalizer 21 seconds later for the Friars, as she converted off the power play for her eighth goal of the season.

With the game tied at 2-2 and only a 1:24 remaining, freshman forward Jackie Duncan stepped up for the Friars. Stealing the puck from BC's Gaby Beaudry, Duncan scored the game-winning goal, propelling PC into the championship game.

"We have been so resilient all year long and you have to be when you take as many penalties as we do, and still have a kill percentage of around 90 percent," Deraney said after the game. "That and their workmanlike approach, doing the things that are needed to grind the other team down, is what makes me so proud of this team."

Proud of the way his team finished, Deraney remained optimistic about his team's future.

"We did a lot of things well this season, but I was most impressed with the resiliency and workmanlike attitude that this team showed in games, especially toward the last third of the season," he said. "That's what I'm most proud of, and it gives me a lot of hope as we look forward and prepare for the 2007-08 season."

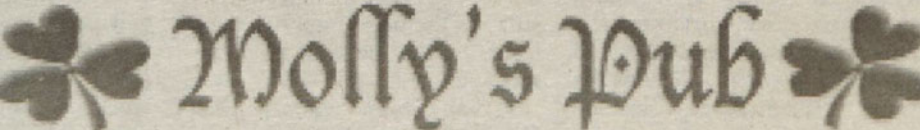
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Friars close season with three game skid

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07
SPORTS EDITOR

West Virginia Head Coach John Beilein is only 54 years old, but as he sits before the media during the Big East Tournament in Madison Square Garden, his hemming and hawing demeanor and grandfatherly appearance give him the aura of a college basketball wise man. After guiding his Mountaineers to a 92-79 win over Providence in the tourney quarterfinals, he fulfills that role with a simple but profound statement.

"I think the best idea for everybody in the country is to just try and keep winning," he says. "I know the NCAA Selection Committee just does a terrific job, but we just need to keep winning and not worry about any of that."

Keep winning—that's the challenge for college hoops teams come March. It's something that has been out of reach for the Providence College Men's Basketball Team the last few years, and much to the chagrin of Head Coach Tim Welsh and the Friar faithful, this season was no different.

The Friars dropped their regular season finale to St. John's on Sunday, March 4, by a score of 77-64, then came up short in the same building three days later, falling to Beilein's Mountaineers in the Big East Tourney. PC's season then came to a close on Wednesday, March 14, as the Friars forced overtime in their first round NIT showdown with Bradley but ultimately came up short, 90-78.

That three game stretch dropped Providence's final record to 18-13 on the season—certainly no slouches in the ever-challenging Big East, but not the breakout year that it appeared to be in early January.



MARY PELLETIER '09/The Cowl

Senior center Herbert Hill carried the Friars on his back down the stretch, but PC was unable to overcome West Virginia in the Big East Tournament and Bradley in the opening round of the NIT.

The West Virginia game was a testament to that. Having defeated the then No. 22 Mountaineers in Providence on Tuesday, Feb. 20, the Friars were unable to make it two in a row over Beilein's crew. The Mounts turned the tables, shooting a blistering 17-31 from three point range to set a new Big East Tournament record.

"Tonight we started in the zone, we played it the same way we did in Providence," Welsh said afterward. "We tried to make a couple of adjustments to what they adjusted to . . . But they made their shots. They made a lot of shots with the hands in their face."

"They just did a great job of spacing us out tonight and just moving the ball," senior center Herbert Hill said. "It just seemed like everything they threw up went it."

It was an especially frustrating game for Hill, who finished his senior year with a dominant closing stretch. Over PC's final five games, Hill averaged a jaw-dropping 24.6 points, 12.2 rebounds, and 5.0 blocks per game, all while shooting 68.9 percent from the floor.

For Hill, though, there was only stat that mattered: PC went 1-4 in those games.

"I feel bad for him that he couldn't make a run in this tournament his senior year because he's given us so much," Welsh said of his lone senior. "He's just a wonderful guy to coach, he's a great teammate, he's a great guy in the locker room, and a great player—I think one of the best players not only in our league but in the country."

Hill did yeoman's work on the inside during PC's stretch run, but his supporting cast too often came up small. His teammates stepped up at times—freshman Dwain Williams actually led the Friars in scoring against WVU with 21, while sophomore guard Weyinmi Ejefuku hung 28 on Bradley in the season finale—but overall, there was not enough consistency from PC's underclassmen.

Welsh noted that although it's not an excuse, the Friars' short bench hurt them. When combined with a few nagging

FRIARS/Page 24

PC BOWS OUT IN FINALS

BY MIKE SPRINGER '08
SPORTS STAFF

As their classmates ventured south toward warm weather and relaxation, the Providence College Women's Hockey Team headed north into the frigid and far less hospitable environment of Durham, to take part in the Hockey East Tournament.

Finding ways to overcome penalties and a 2-0 deficit, the Friars ultimately upended the Boston College Eagles, 3-2, catapulting themselves into the Hockey East Finals for the fourth time in five years. Unfortunately, that's where PC's season would end with 3-1 loss to UNH, as the Friars finished 16-16-4 on the year.

In the championship game against UNH, the Friars did not forget how the Wildcats had blanked them only a month ago on their home ice and it made Sunday's game a much anticipated opportunity for PC to send a message to UNH and re-establish themselves, once again, as the best team in the Hockey East.

Life after PC

Fond memories for Lundberg as hockey career continues

Editor's Note: Throughout the course of the semester, the Sports staff has examined the prospects of several former Friar athletes in a feature we like to call "Life after PC."

BY DREW GOUCHER '08
SPORTS STAFF

Because Providence College is small, it sometimes seems as though all of the students know each other. For Eric Lundberg, a 2005 graduate of both the school and its hockey program, that PC feeling didn't end at graduation.

That's because Lundberg, now playing professional hockey in the ECHL for the Augusta Lynx, still has the opportunity to bump heads on the ice with other former skating Friars.

"I've played against Chap [Chris Chaput 05] a lot this year, probably six or seven times. Torry Gajda 06 just got traded to Pensacola, and we play them soon. Plus we've played against Pembie [James Pemberton 06] twice this year," Lundberg said.

"It's always cool seeing those guys. You're there to play, but once the whistle blows, you talk to them, and after the game you catch up," he added.

ing defenseman with a big shot—is just one of a handful of Providence alumni questing to play hockey at the highest level.

His story began almost 24 years ago, in Vernon, Conn. By age 3, Lundberg had begun skating, and by age 5, he was playing hockey. Originally, it was his older brother who got him into the game. From there, Lundberg moved on to play in the Mite division for Echo, a local team, and progressed through the USA Hockey classifications. Meanwhile, his skills developed rapidly, so he soon shifted to a travel team called the Springfield Ticks, which represented an upgrade in the competition he would face.

"The competition was better, and the league was much more serious and organized," Lundberg said. "We'd usually travel on weekends, and games could be anywhere from half an hour to two hours away. Since I was only 8 or 9 then, it was a pretty serious commitment at the time."

When Lundberg was a sophomore in high school, he had the opportunity to play for Gary Dineen with the New England Junior Coyotes—an old EJHL team sponsored by the Phoenix Coyotes that featured many top young players who hoped to someday play in college. His im-



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Eric Lundberg '05 is pursuing his dream of playing professional hockey two years after graduating from PC. He currently plays for the Augusta Lynx of the East Coast Hockey League.

ior year, colleges began recruiting. But Providence stood out from the other schools, and before long, Lundberg signed his letter of intent with PC.

Lundberg. "I loved the rink. The academics were a big part too, since PC is a well-known, prestigious academic school. Also,

LUNDBERG/Page 24